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ARAB TIMES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1990/RAMADAN 9, 1410 AH

Israel launches satellite

Shamir aide calls for gas mask supply programme

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, April 3. (Agencies): Israel launched its second satellite into space today, witnesses said.

A rocket carrying the Ofek-2 satellite, said recently by foreign sources to be a military reconnaissance satellite, was fired from a launchpad in the centre of Israel at 3 pm.

The satellite was launched a day after Iraqi President Saddam Hussein threatened to destroy half of Israel with advanced chemical weapons if the Jewish state attacked Israel.

NEWSWATCH

Bomb scare: Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataraman arrived in Britain for a three-day state visit on Tuesday but plans for a royal welcome had to be changed due to a bomb scare shortly before his plane touched down.

Police closed the rail station serving Gatwick airport near London after a bag was spotted on a platform where the president was due to take a special royal train into the capital. (Reuters)

India demands Bofors documents: India has demanded to see unpublished Swedish documents and question officials on claims that arms maker AB Bofors bribed Indian officials to secure a lucrative 1986 arms deal, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Spokeswoman Anita Matejovsky said the demands were expressed in a diplomatic note presented by an Indian delegation to the ministry on Monday.

The Indian government alleges that Bofors paid \$40 million in bribes to members of the former Congress Party administration of Rajiv Gandhi in order to win a \$1.3 billion artillery contract in 1986.

Several unidentified Indian officials were charged in Delhi in January with criminal conspiracy, corruption, abuse of official position by public servants, cheating, forgery and criminal breach of trust.

Matejovsky said the Swedish government was studying the Indian note. (Reuters)

UAE man trying to set fathering record: A UAE man is trying to set what he believes to be a Gulf record by fathering 50 children, a local newspaper said yesterday.

Salim Juma from the small emirate of Ras Al Khaimah already has 32 children from eight women, four of them born over the last year, and another three expected, the Gulf News said.

The paper said Juma, an employee of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, has complained that his monthly salary of 12,000 dirhams (\$3,270) was not enough to keep his children, his current wives, and to pay off his four divorced wives.

Islam allows each man up to four wives at one time. (Reuters)

Arafat and Carter may meet in Paris: Former US President Jimmy Carter and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat would meet today in the French capital, a newspaper and radio station reported Monday.

Neither radio Monte Carlo or the Arab newspaper Al Hayat said what would be on the agenda.

A spokesman for the Carter Centre in Plains, Georgia, said Carter hoped the meeting with the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader would go forward but that nothing was firm.

The precise location will be kept secret until the talks end, the radio station reported, adding that Premier Michel Rocard or Foreign Minister Roland Dumas of France may attend. (AP)

US airlines offer reward: Playing on human greed, US airlines plan to offer \$1 million for information on international terrorists, supplementing the two million US Congress last year authorised the State Department to offer for such data, an aviation expert said Monday.

Confirming reports of the proposed million dollar offer, US government security consultant Billie Vincent told USA Today newspaper: "Money is the motivator for people to come forward with information. The bigger that (reward) fund gets, the better, regardless of the airline's motive."

Some have questioned the offer, believing it to be a publicity gimmick. (Kuwait)

Abu Ghazala gets key role: Egypt's former Defence Minister, Abdel-Halim Ghazala, has been given a key role in the country's ambitious privatisation plans, bringing the controversial ex-soldier back into the limelight.

Information Minister Safwat Sharif told reporters on Monday that President Hosni Mubarak, embarking on an era of privatising the country's massive public sector, had asked Abu Ghazala to monitor the work of a new ministerial committee. (Reuters)

Bulgaria agrees June polls: Bulgaria's Communist-dominated parliament on Tuesday cleared the way for free elections in June and appointed reformist politician Petar Mladenov to the new post of president.

At its last session before being dissolved, the national assembly also voted overwhelmingly in favour of the formation of political parties to contest the elections on June 10 and 17, formally scrapping the principle of one-party rule.

The elections, the first free multi-party poll in Bulgaria for 45 years, will complete a series of five East European states moving from one-party Communist rule to Western-style democracy.

The chamber erased the word "socialist" from Bulgaria's constitution and replaced it with "democratic". (Reuters)

Poland-Lithuania crossing

Soviet closes border

WARSAW, April 3. (Reuters): The Soviet authorities closed the only border crossing between Poland and Lithuania today, the official PAP news agency said.

PAP said the Ogorodnic-Lazdijai crossing was temporarily closed at 9 am (0700 GMT) and only Polish and Soviet citizens returning home and trucks with goods would be allowed to cross it.

PAP added that Polish citizens holding Soviet visas and travelling on business would be allowed in but all public transport was banned.

(See earlier report Page 7)

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

MR. HANIF H. Moosa has won the Third Full House prize. He will receive KD40. The answer to the clue is 83.



Hanging car

A Christian civilian checks a destroyed car hanged on a wall in battered east Beirut. Heavy battles erupted between rival Christian forces in east Beirut and mountains north of Beirut causing damage and inflicting unknown number of casualties. At least 880 people have been killed and 2500 wounded in two months of bloodshed. (Reuters)

US criticises Shamir plans

Jewish settlements

WASHINGTON, April 3. (Reuters): The United States said yesterday it was disturbed that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir appeared ready to expand settlements in occupied territories and it looked forward to working with a new government on peace progress.

"It's disturbing that an Israeli leadership which was unable to move forward on peace seems ready to move forward on new settlements," State Department spokeswoman Marlene Turner said.

"We look forward, as we've said before, to working with a new government that emerges soon that is capable of moving the peace process forward."

She appeared to be referring to statements from Shamir's government on Sunday that it would continue a policy of building eight new settlements in territory occupied by Israel since the 1967 Middle East war.

Shamir's media adviser, Avi Pazner, told Reuters in Israel that he could not confirm a charge by Israeli parliament member Avraham Burg that Shamir's Likud Party was "going to escalate the rhythm for the confirmation of five settlements."

But he added: "What was agreed upon will be carried out. This government will continue the policy of the former government. This is what a transition government is all about."

The ministry is not commenting on that fact for the time being," he said in a statement.

(See earlier report Page 7)

The Likud-Labour government formed in 1988 decided to build eight new settlements but both parties had to agree on the timetable.

Likud no longer has that constraint, however, because Labour vacated the Finance Ministry, which would approve the necessary funds.

Labour vacated the position after the coalition crumbled last month over Shamir's refusal to accept US proposals for the first-ever Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

The Arab League yesterday asked the European Economic Community to help stem the emigration of Soviet Jews in Israel, EEC sources said.

They said a delegation of the Arab League met with Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins, whose country now holds the EEC presidency, to drum up international support for an end to the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel.

A senior aide to Shamir said yesterday that Israel has no plans to build Jewish settlements in the occupied territories beyond the ones agreed to earlier by the coalition government.

There are no plans to establish any new settlements beyond those which were decided upon by the government of national unity," said Shamir spokesman Avi Pazner.

"He has no responsibility for policy, intelligence or political matters within the US government and his work does not involve the Philippines. Mr Maglio was traveling on vac-

ation to the Philippines as a private individual."

Middleton said Maglio was employed with the Norton Air Base as a "civilian quality assurance manager." She said his meeting with Galido took place in April 1989.

Galido's statement drew a storm of protest in the Congress, media and among ordinary Filipinos who resent any implication of US meddling in the Southeast Asian nation's often-chaotic civilian-military relations.

The United States provided cover for loyal government troops during the Dec. 1 coup attempt, saving Aquino from the sixth and

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18 PAGES 150 FILS



Prisoners hurl missiles

Rioting prisoners from Manchester's Strangeways prison hurl missiles from rooftop positions on Monday on the second day of their protest. Unconfirmed reports said that up to 20 prisoners may have been killed in the violence that erupted in the overcrowded jail on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto) Refer to page 2.

Sikh bombs kill 31

ETS cancels scores of 2,744

Test cheating

NEW YORK, April 3. (AP): A five-month investigation has found an epidemic of cheating on standardised tests in India, leading to cancellation of 6,600 scores, the Educational Testing Service said yesterday.

Evidence of what is perhaps the worst outbreak of standardised test cheating ever came to light in December when the testing service said it was wiping out scores of 2,744 Indian students who had taken the Graduate Record Examination.

An investigation by ETS revealed widespread security breaches at many Indian test centres, and there was evidence that students bad been able to copy codes of the examination in advance.

Widespread cheating and test buying continued despite the investigation, said Charlotte Kuh, executive director of Graduate Record Exam programmes for ETS.

As a result, she said, the testing service will offer the graduate exams less frequently and at fewer locations in India. And she said the service had cancelled the test scores of students who took the GRE on Jan. 20, Feb. 3 and Feb. 10, bringing the number of score cancellations to about 6,600.

The problem was somewhere in our shipping process," said Kuh, who declined to elaborate on who the culprits were.

"We are certain that the majority of students in India did not have knowledge of the test questions," said Kuh.

"Nonetheless, because it's ETS' responsibility to provide valid test scores, ETS must earn all scores to group security cases when it is impossible to determine which scores are valid and which are not."

Some 366,000 students worldwide take the GRE each year, and 14,000 take the exam to India, according to ETS. Most students who take the test do so to gain entry into US graduate school programmes.

Last December, ETS spokesman Ray Nicosia said the service had received dozens of letters from Indian students and test centre supervisors indicating that students had been able to buy copies of the standardised tests before the administrative dates.

bombing occurred during a procession marking Ram Navami, a Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Rama, a heroic warrior-king. Rama is extolled in Hindu lore as an incarnation of Vishnu, a member of the supreme Hindu trinity of lords.

Police also blamed Sikh extremists for an attack on a bus last night in Uttar Pradesh state, news agencies reported. It is separated from Punjab by Haryana state.

Press Trust of India said police recovered a Chinese assault rifle bearing the inscription "Khalistan Commando Force."

Kuwaiti woman robbed of \$2m

KUWAIT, April 3. (Reuters): Two Asian domestic servants stole gold jewellery and other valuables worth \$2 million from a Kuwaiti woman and fled the country, a Kuwaiti newspaper said today.

The Al Sayassah daily, quoting informed sources, said the servants stole the jewellery from the woman's bedroom.

Kuwait had informed Interpol of the robbery, the biggest reported in Kuwait. There were no further details.

Ramadan timings

Imsak: 4.04 am
Iftar: 6.09 pm

DAY BY DAY

IMET a friend of mine, after a long spell to find that he had gained tremendous weight.

Querig him, my friend explained that as he was now old, he had lost all lust and appetite, except the appetite to eat and consequently was eating the best type of food which has contributed to his extraordinary weight.

The answer made me laugh for quite a while.

Zahed Matar

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1990

Bejart plans Oriental ballet

CAIRO, April 3. (Reuters): With the pyramids as a backdrop and dance inspired by Islamic music, French choreographer Maurice Bejart is to stage a new ballet in Egypt next month.

Unveiling plans at a news conference yesterday, Bejart, who converted to Islam six years ago, said the ballet will be based on Islamic music from the Arab world, Iran, India and Pakistan.

Bejart, one of the world's best-known choreographers and currently director of the "Bejart Ballet Lausanne" in Switzerland, has a reputation for staging ballets across the world, drawing inspiration from the local culture.

Based in Brussels until three years ago, he has staged performances in Japan, in the ancient capital city of Persepolis and in Baalbek in Lebanon.

Learn

"What I have been trying in 25 years of work is to go round the world performing. Europe is now a very small part of the world and we have to learn about other countries," he said.

His latest ballet, "Pyramide," will follow famous characters connected with Egypt from ancient times to modern days — the pharaohs, Dhul Nun, a Sufi mystic of the middle ages, Alexander the Great, Napoleon Bonaparte and Egyptian singer Om Kalthoum.

"I was interested by lots of characters who went through Egypt," said Bejart. "Through this character (Dhul Nun)... I had something to help me to put everything together and who becomes the soul of the performance."

The ballet, due to have its premiere on May 25, will be performed by the 60-strong ballet Lausanne, and based on Bejart's own style rather than imitating oriental dance.

"I think it's very bad to do false folkloric... You must have a style and you try to understand the soul of the country by your style and not try to imitate from outside," he said.

Desert

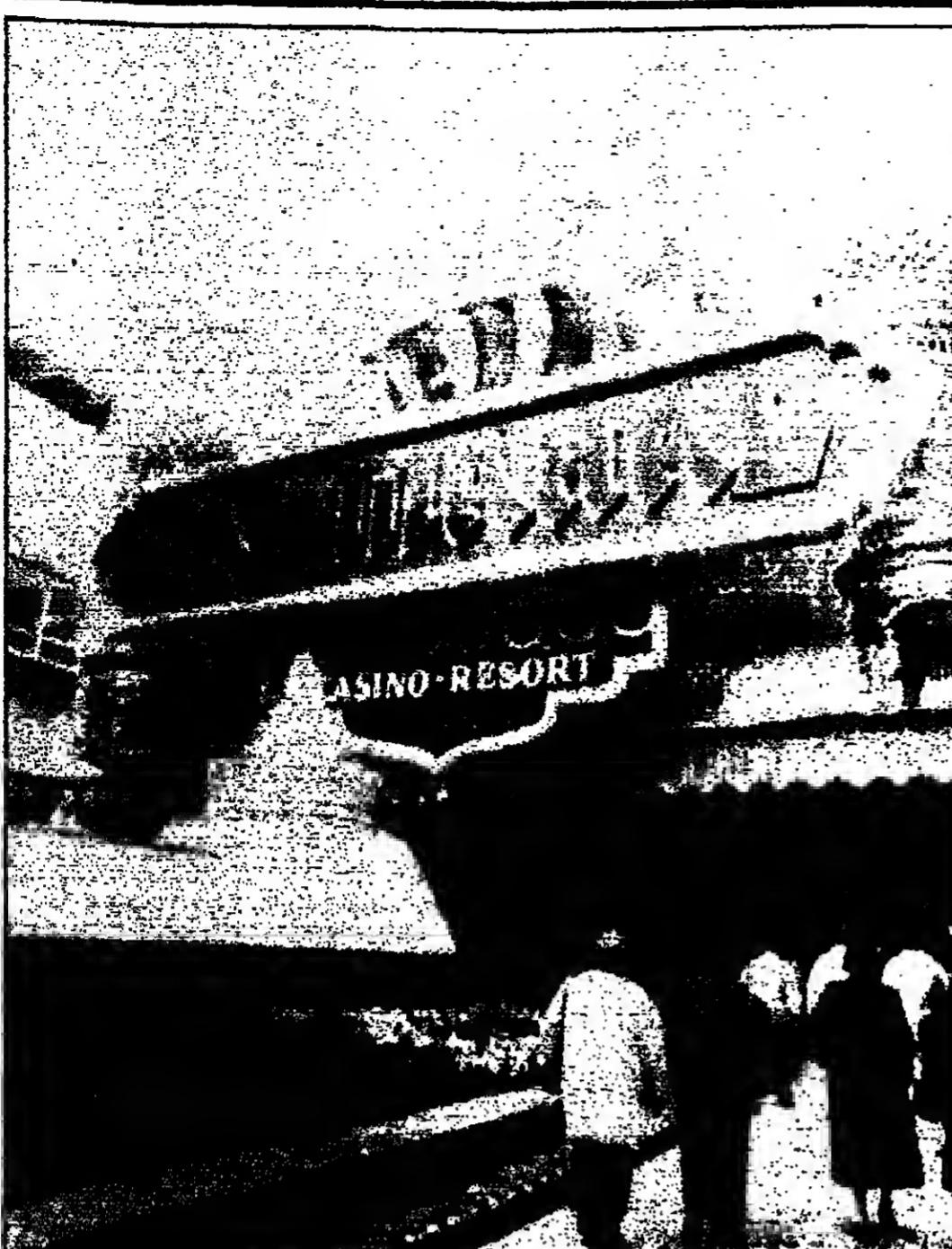
At a cost of some \$200,000, a stage is to be built out in the desert with no other backdrop but the pyramids.

Egyptian authorities are already promising a gala dinner with international celebrities at the premiere and tourist companies are offering a night at the ballet as part of a package tour. The ballet will run from May 17 to May 25.

Bejart, however, says this ballet is for Egyptians.

"My wish is to give this performance to the Egyptian people and that it could be seen by different levels of society. I have no wish to come here if it is to play only for tourists," he told the news conference.

Tickets start at 20 Egyptian pounds (eight dollars) for students rising to 200 Egyptian pounds (\$80).



First day gamblers enter the Taj Mahal casino, on Monday. It is Donald Trump's third casino in Atlantic City. Trump boasts the largest casino in the world waits for its full operating licence expected on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)



The Raja suite at the new Taj Mahal casino, Donald Trump's billion dollar gamble, sports an Indian motif featuring replicas of elephant tusks and a \$600 per night price tag. The casino, which is the size of two American football fields, is the biggest and best gambling den in the world, Trump said. (Reuters wirephoto)

Trump's new casino opens with fanfare and full house

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, April 3. (UPI): Gamblers and gamblers got a preview of billionaire Donald Trump's immense new \$1 billion casino yesterday one of the few times the real estate tycoon and gaming magnate has done business with play money.

Crowds streamed into the Taj Mahal Casino resort beginning at 10 am when the doors were flung open for the first time.

By noon, the 120,000-square-foot (11,500-sq-m) casino floor — the largest in the world — was packed and no slot machines were available.

The slots accepted real coins, but gamblers had to use play money at the craps

tables and blackjack and baccarat games during a state-required period of test gambling.

"I'm really happy," said billionaire Trump, who wove his way through the casino several times, accepting congratulations, signing autographs and stopping occasionally to chat with a scurrying cocktail waitress.

"I cannot believe the kind of crowd we have," said Trump, who also owns the Trump Plaza and Trump Castle Casinos in Atlantic City. "It's Monday morning and it's raining and I don't think there is an empty machine to be had."

During the test period, gaming regulators will review the Taj's operations to determine if casino personnel are capable of handling real money according to proper procedure.

A decision was expected late last night as to whether the test period would continue or if low-limit betting or full play would be allowed today. Taj officials hope to get their final regulatory approvals by Thursday, when the casino is planning an official opening celebration.

Thursday's bash originally was to include an appearance by Marla Maples, reportedly the "other woman" in Trump's mega-dollar divorce battle with his Czech-born wife,

Ivana. After originally inviting Maples, Trump later withdrew the invitation.

The Taj, which features 70 colourful minarets, spires and onion domes and \$14 million worth of chandeliers, has 12 restaurants and at 42 stories is New Jersey's tallest building.

"I think it's fantastic," Angelina Weston of Camden, who played hooky from her job to attend the Taj opening. "It's beautiful. That guy must have spent a fortune on this place."

Trump floated \$675 million in junk bonds to build the extravagant boardwalk casino and must come up with \$94 million a year to

pay the debt service.

Industry analysts have said Trump will have to raise in more than \$1 million a day from gamblers to make the 1,250-room casino-hotel a success.

Anthony Parillo, director of the New Jersey division of gaming enforcement, said by noon yesterday there had been no major glitches in the test gaming.

"There is one huge crowd here," said Parillo as he surveyed the crowded gaming floor. "It's putting a strain on the system, but I think they are going to come through it very well."

The long-anticipated opening attracted a

Trump rival, Jack Gallaway, president of Tropworld Casino and Entertainment Resort, which until the Taj boasted the largest casino floor in town, said he had stopped in to take a look.

"It's a beautiful casino," Gallaway said. "I wish him luck. A large casino floor is a big advantage, especially on the weekends when the city is sleeping at the seams. But when it's empty, it's really empty."

Gallaway predicted that after a "year shakeout," during which the Taj might lure away business from its 11 competitors, business at all the casinos would return to normal.

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INTERNATIONAL

World News Roundup

America

Police love triangle: An auxiliary policewoman who dated a city policeman for more than 20 years broke down his door and shot him three times in a jealous rage Monday as another auxiliary policewoman cowered in the apartment, police officials and sources said.

Elaine Hall, 44, a clerk at the 19th Precinct in Manhattan and an auxiliary police officer at the 44th Precinct in the Bronx, was charged with attempted murder in the shooting of officer Thomas Parker, said police spokesman Sgt Nick Vreeland.

Parker, 46, a 17-year veteran of the force, was in stable condition following surgery at Jacobi Hospital, the spokesman said.

The motive for the shooting was believed to be a love triangle, said another police spokeswoman, Sgt. Wrensen. (AP) ***

Atwater to undergo radiation: Republican Party chairman Lee Atwater entered a New York hospital Monday for intense radiation treatment of a type of brain tumour that experts say is persistent and dangerous.

Mary Matalin, chief of staff for the Republican National Committee, said in a statement that doctors had determined Atwater has an astrocytoma, a type of tumour that has "the potential to be aggressive."

The tumour was diagnosed last month after Atwater collapsed during a speech. (AP)

Court to decide punitive damages: The Supreme Court in Washington on Monday agreed to decide whether huge punitive damage awards in lawsuits may violate constitutional guarantees of fundamental fairness.

The court said it will consider overturning a \$1 million award and three smaller awards to Alabama residents who successfully sued an insurance company for fraud.

The case, of enormous importance to American business, is likely to be decided in 1991. (AP)

Killed with love in his heart: John E. List killed his wife, three children and mother in 1971 "with love in his heart" to save their souls, his attorney argued Monday at the start of the former Sunday school teacher's murder trial.

List, a strictly raised Lutheran, was a "fragmented" product of 19th century ethics who despised while his family loosened church ties and felt himself failing as a provider, said defence lawyer Elijah L. Miller Jr.

"He was simply not equipped to cope, to deal with the pressure of our times," said Miller.

Arrested in Virginia in June, List is charged with first-degree murder in the deaths of his wife, mother, daughter and two sons at his Westfield mansion Nov. 9, 1971. (AP) ***

Dies before mom can repay him: A man who donated one of his kidneys seven years ago to save his mother's life died hours before she could pay him back, Monday with a bone marrow transplant in Chicago.

Hillary Mitchell, 37, who had been unable to work as a truck driver since contracting leukaemia, was scheduled to receive the bone marrow from his mother, Ernestine, 56.

But Mitchell was unable to hang on for the potentially life-saving procedure. He died at 11:25 pm (03:25 GMT) Sunday, said nursing co-ordinator Ann Jagiella of the University of Chicago hospitals. (AP)

More women opting for sterilisation: Nearly one in every six American women in the normal childbearing age group has been surgically sterilised as a method of birth control, a government report said in Washington.

The results of the National Centre for Health Statistics Study indicates that nearly as many women 15 to 44 opt for sterilisation as choose to use the birth control pill. Figures on abortion were not included.

The study, which provides the most recent contraceptive data available, found that 16.6 per cent of those women interviewed had been sterilised, while 18.5 per cent used the pill. (AP)

Bradley seeks re-election: Sen. Bill Bradley has announced that he will seek re-election, quashing speculation about a 1992 presidential bid by saying he planned to represent New Jersey for the full six-year term.

A poll of Democratic state chairmen from throughout the nation recently put Bradley, 46, at the top of their list for the presidential nomination in 1992. Bradley, however, said Monday he wants to make his contribution representing New Jersey.

Bradley, a Rhodes scholar from Denville who played basketball for Princeton University and the New York Knicks, is seen as one northeaster who would be acceptable in more conservative regions. (AP) ***

Cholesterol relief: Cholesterol-obsessed people may now find at least partial relief, with researchers Monday reporting that chickens given a prescription drug lay eggs with less harmful cholesterol.

The drug, lovastatin (normally used in people to lower their cholesterol levels and so reduce heart attack risks) lowered the amounts of the fatty stuff on average from 213 milligrams per egg to 168. Purdue University scientists reported.

The greatest reductions in cholesterol were recorded among hens given the highest doses of lovastatin over the nine-day test period. (Kuna) ***

Stop glorifying alcohol: Congress may ban broadcast advertising of beer and wine if the broadcast industry doesn't stop glorifying alcohol on its own, six congressmen warned at the industry's annual convention.

"We're not after you all on this alcohol thing. We're just putting you on notice," said Oklahoma Congressman Michael Synar, one of six lawmakers who participated in a panel discussion at the National Association of Broadcasters Convention on Sunday.

The lawmakers stressed that alcohol is a drug, and warned that alcohol advertisements are not protected by the US constitution protecting free speech. (AP) ***

Dynamite found buried in backyard: Two women unearthed more than 60 sticks of old dynamite in their back yard and police evacuated a two-block area for several hours until the bomb squad could remove the highly unstable explosive in San Francisco.

They dynamite, discovered by Melinda Costello about 1.30 pm Sunday, was in a rusted metal chest and had no identifying marks. Police said it was not immediately apparent how long it had been buried.

Costello, who has lived in the house for more than five years, said the dynamite was in a plastic bag and was wet on top. She said she unwrapped one of the sticks and found the crystallized substance inside. (AP) ***

Kilauea threatens community: Lava from Kilauea volcano is threatening a subdivision of 83 homes in the coastal town of Kalapana, and authorities ordered most of the residents to evacuate.

The slow-moving flow was half a mile (a kilometre) from Kalapana gardens subdivision on Monday morning. A lava flow in 1986 destroyed dozens of homes in the same area.

Hawaiian county civil defence administrator Harry Kim ordered residents in 50 of the houses to evacuate by nightfall and placed the town on alert, meaning residents in about 150 homes could be ordered to evacuate within 72 hours. (AP)

Degas painting

A painting by Degas entitled 'Degas en Gilet Vert' a self-portrait, sold at Christie's auction in London on Monday for £1.7 million. (Reuter wirephoto)



Donald Trump's wife

Ivana Trump, estranged wife of billionaire developer Donald Trump, enlivens the Plaza Hotel in New York on Monday. Donald Trump is to open the Taj Mahal casino in Atlantic City on April 5. (Reuter wirephoto)



White dying

Ryan White (shown right), whose battle with AIDS brought him scorn in his hometown but support from across the world, was hospitalised with internal bleeding Monday and was not expected to live, authorities said.

Doctors said Monday afternoon that White, now 18, probably would not survive the day, said Carrie Van Dyke, director of health promotion for the State Board of Health.

Van Dyke said White's mother, Jeanne, and his sister, Andrea, were among the relatives at his bedside.

White's hemophilia, the disorder that initially exposed him to the deadly AIDS virus, prevented doctors from operating, said Van Dyke. She said she was told about White's condition by his mother at lunchtime.

"This is it. He's not expected to come out of it," Van Dyke said. "He's not responding."

Van Dyke voiced a small hope White would recover, saying, "he's surprised us before." (Reuter wirephoto)

Sweeps box office

Turtlemania

HOLLYWOOD. April 3. (AP): "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," the motion picture saga about pizza-eating, sewer-dwelling heroes on the half-shell, snapped up record green with an estimated \$25-million weekend box office.

Turtlemania swept the box office tally with the radioactive reptiles surpassing "The Hunt for Red October" by 50 per cent for the biggest non-summer, non-Thanksgiving weekend opening in movie history, according to figures released yesterday by Exhibitor Relations Co.

The box-office bonanza was even more remarkable because more than half those buying tickets were youngsters paying an average \$2.50 to \$3 per ticket, compared to the \$5.50 to \$6.50 for adults. New Line Cinemas said.

The live-action film follows the adventures of the giant turtles, former aquarium pets who mutated when exposed to radioactive sewer waste. It is playing on 1,956 screens.

In second place on the box-office charts according to early estimates was "Pretty Woman," starring Richard Gere and Julia Roberts. The film grossed \$13.1 million.

TV Marti signals

Electronic war

BARACOA, Cuba. April 3. (AP): For the past several months, a squad of Cuban military pilots have been on 24-hour alert for the attack of an invisible enemy. Last week, the first assault came.

The United States started sending TV Marti signals toward Cuba. The signal has carried mostly replays of old sports events and comedy shows, but the Cuban government regards it as a deadly serious offense.

"This is a war; they have begun it," said Lt Col Thais Martinez, gesturing toward the United States as he spoke yesterday to foreign journalists at Baracoa air base here, a half-hour drive from Havana.

About 40 yards (metres) away stood two Soviet-made helicopters, key elements in the anti-TV Marti defense system.

The helicopters take off as soon as TV Marti begins to penetrate Cuban air space. Apparently with the help of on-board transmitters, the choppers are able to interfere with the signal.

Martinez is pleased with the results.

"Everything has been covered," he said, contending that TV Marti's signal has been almost completely unable to reach Cuban TV sets for more than a few minutes.

The work of the helicopters is supplemented by two tall TV antennas in Havana, also with jamming capability.

Kilanea threatens community: Lava from Kilanea volcano is threatening a subdivision of 83 homes in the coastal town of Kalapana, and authorities ordered most of the residents to evacuate.

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A painting by Degas entitled 'Degas en Gilet Vert' a self-portrait, sold at Christie's auction in London on Monday for £1.7 million. (Reuter wirephoto)



"He was absolutely sure that it was merely a matter of time before they came back for him," Lucy Mukaru Ng'ang'a said in a statement issued through her lawyers. (UPI) ***

Information minister sacked: Minister of Information and Broadcasting Warumi Kanja lost his job Monday, two weeks after he started a row over the violent death of Kenya's Foreign Minister, Robert Ouko.

Official Voice of Kenya radio announced Kanja's dismissal, but gave no reasons for it.

Kanja, in his 60s, caused uproar at the opening of parliament two weeks ago, when he used a debate to compare Ouko's death to a famous case of political assassination from 1975. (UPI)

Prince Aya to visit Kenya: Prince Aya, the second son of Japan's Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, will make a two-week tour of Kenya and Madagascar this month to conduct research on zoology, the Imperial Household Agency announced Tuesday.

The agency said Aya, who now studies at Oxford University, will leave London April 10 for a five-day tour of Kenya.

The prince will visit the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, the Kenyan national museum and other places of interest, the agency said. (UPI)

African leaders greedy, corrupt: Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said on Monday many other African leaders were greedy, corrupt, hypocritical and were turning their backs on the poor.

"Hypocrisy, abuse of power and office and greed for wealth by the leaders have become the order of the day," Museveni said in a speech at the start of a conference in Kampala on the role of the ombudsman in Africa.

"It is the duty of the African leadership to show a common social concern for the poor majority whom they lead," he said in the speech, which was read for him.

Ombudsmen are special government investigators charged with defending individual citizens from abuse by officials. (UPI)

Renamo rebels welcome peace talks: The rebels of the Mozambican National Resistance on Monday welcomed a government offer for immediate talks and reaffirmed they were ready to start negotiations "at all levels," the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

According to Lusa, monitored in Lisbon, Faustino Mateus, chief rebel delegate in Nairobi, Kenya, said the peace process was no longer blocked by questions of principle.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano said Saturday in an interview with Portuguese state television that contacts were being made with the rebels, who are also known by their Portuguese acronym Renamo, to set a venue and date for first direct peace talks to end the Southern African nation's 13-year civil war. (UPI)

Angola cholera toll, 60: Cholera has killed 60 people in the southern Angolan province of Namibe since the beginning of the year, Angola's news agency Angop reported Monday.

According to the Angop report monitored in Lisbon, 1,200 cases of cholera were registered in the mainly desert province bordering on Namibia.

The chief causes of the epidemic were poor sanitary and garbage disposal facilities in the provincial capital, also called Namibe, Angop said. (UPI)

Contras to disarm:



Contra rebels living in Honduran camps will formally hand in their weapons on April 18, a week before President-elect Violeta Chamorro takes office in Nicaragua, a Contra spokesman said Monday.

Contra spokesman Alfonso Acevedo released a statement in Tegucigalpa saying the demobilization "will proceed next April 18 with the formal handing over of weapons in Yamasal." Contra leaders agreed March 23 to demobilize their forces.

Acevedo said the Contra fighters would hand over Soviet-made AK-47 rifles, 60 mm machine guns, 60-82- and 82-mm mortars and RPG-7 and RPG-2 grenade launchers.

Acevedo said the Contras will demand a simultaneous ceasefire or the partial withdrawal of Nicaragua's popular Sandinista Army, observed by observers from the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

In the picture, a nineteen-year-old Contra combatant and his six-month-old baby start the long trek home to Nicaragua. (Reuter wirephoto)

US invasion was bloodier

Noriega defence claims

MIAMI. April 3. (AP): Manuel Antonio Noriega's defence put a former US Attorney General on the witness stand yesterday and claimed the invasion of Panama was bloodier and more destructive than the government has admitted.

Following the court hearing, Noriega reportedly told two representatives of a private group he negotiated with the US government up until the invasion.

Noriega claimed Washington was willing to drop the drug charges against him, but unless its military might after he refused to allow Panamanian bases to be used as staging grounds for military intervention in Nicaragua, the representative said.

Clark, who toured Panama in January, is one of the most prominent members of the private group, which also includes author Graham Greene.

Clark was questioned about the number of civilian deaths in Panama, which the defense department has put at between 200 and 300.

"I heard of estimates ranging as high as 7,000," Clark told the judge. "I still believe it will be at least a thousand, and probably several thousand — you never will know the absolute number."

Before Clark's testimony, Defence Attorney Frank Rubio presented videotape of his coverage from major US networks and Panamanian television, much of it aimed at showing the widespread destruction caused by the invasion.

Throughout the tape Noriega sat impassively in his general's uniform at the defense table, except for a twitch once when the film showed him in captivity aboard a US-bound military transport plane.

UK, US reject UN body

Unesco dealt a blow

PARIS. April 3. (AP): Britain is expected to announce this week it will not rejoin the UN cultural agency Unesco if left five years ago, Unesco sources said yesterday.

The British announcement will be followed later this month by an even more strongly-worded rejection of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation by the United States, the sources said.

This will be a major blow to Unesco's hopes of guaranteeing its survival by attracting back two countries that had until the mid-1980s provided crucial finance for the UN body.

Washington and London, which took some 30 per cent of the agency's budget away when they left, say Unesco Director-General Federico Mayor has failed to reform Unesco and express doubts over his leadership.

Other sources in the 161-nation agency said some of its biggest remaining contributors, including Japan, Canada and Australia, were

Lee meets DPP chief

TAIPEI April 3, (UPI): President Lee Teng-Hui yesterday met for the first time with the chairman of Taiwan's main opposition party in a crucial step toward resolving growing unrest over the pace of political reform.

Officials of the ruling Kuomintang (KMT), which President Lee heads, and the opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) described the meeting to discuss an upcoming national affairs conference on political reform as "quite satisfactory."

It was the first time that the head of the KMT has met with the opposition party, which was established in September 1986 and has 20,000 members and many more supporters.

President Lee set a timetable of two years to resolve Taiwan's problems after he is sworn in to his first full six-year term on May 20. Tsiang Yien-Si, organizer of the upcoming conference, said:

"President Lee stressed that the most important thing is political stability," Tsiang said in a press conference. "Then we can deal with the issues step by step. President Lee believes this can be accomplished within two years."

DPP chairman Huang Hsin-Chieh presented to the President a list of four demands, including setting a timetable for reform and an amnesty for political prisoners.

He was unavailable for comment immediately after the meeting, but his secretary-general Chang Chun-Hong said the DPP was "quite satisfied with President Lee's responses to their demands."

President Lee announced a national affairs conference and invited the DPP to sit down for talks after criticism against the government's slow pace of reforms swelled in the run-up to presidential elections March 21.

College students and workers joined the opposition to call for an overhaul of the national assembly. Taiwan's electoral college which is dominated by mainland China-elected deputies in power for the last 40 years, and the abolition of a set of temporary provisions which override the constitution and give the president ultimate power.

Hawke names cabinet

SYDNEY, April 3, (AP): Prime Minister Bob Hawke, preparing to begin fourth term, named eight new ministers in the biggest cabinet reshuffle in eight years.

Meanwhile, Andrew Peacock resigned today as leader of the opposition coalition, following defeat at the hands of Hawke's Labour Party in the March 24 general election. The 148-seat lower house chooses the government.

Federal election results are still not in, but it appeared Labour would win 76 seats to the opposition coalition's 70, with two seats going to independents.

Peacock, 51, was replaced as Liberal Party head by former shadow treasurer John Hewson, who had been widely expected to take the helm.

Peacock, who has twice failed to win the prime ministership, will serve as Hewson's deputy.

In the cabinet moves, Paul Keating was reappointed as treasurer and was also named deputy prime minister. Gareth Evans remained as foreign minister and John Button kept the portfolio for minister of industry, technology and commerce.

Kim Beazley, the former Labour defence minister, moved to transport and communications.

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Drugs are as devastating as atomic bomb: Andreotti

NICOSIA, April 3, (AP): Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti yesterday warned 436 Parliamentarians from 91 countries that "drugs are at least as devastating and destructive as the atomic bomb."

He was addressing the Inter-Parliamentary Union conference which is meeting to discuss combatting drug trafficking and adapting to new technology for sustainable economic development.

Andreotti thanked the conference for accepting Italy's proposal for making drugs the main item of their week-long agenda.

"If we do not unify the wills and resources of all countries to face this disaster, the joy of having freed humanity from the risks of a Third World War and nuclear holocaust may turn out to be illusory," Andreotti said.

"For both present and future generations drugs are at least as devastating

and destructive as the atomic bomb. We must spare the world from this biblical plague without limiting our sacrifices and initiatives," he added.

The conference was the first such gathering attended by delegates from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Hungary since the collapse of Eastern Europe's one-party communist governments.

Andreotti and other keynote speakers on the opening day declared that

international developments had made the 113-member union's role more important.

In addition to the prearranged two agenda items, on drugs and sustainable development, the conference chose a third item from a list of nine proposals submitted by different delegations.

It voted overwhelmingly for an omnibus proposal by the host country, Cyprus "on peace and security in the Mediterranean region in the light of

developments in Europe and the new spirit prevailing internationally."

This included the problems of divided Cyprus, the Middle East, Jewish settlement in occupied Arab territories and civil-war ravaged Lebanon.

The adoption of the Cypriot proposal was opposed by Pakistan which argued that it should not be discussed in the absence of Turkey.

Turkey invaded and helped create a

Turkish Cypriot breakaway state in the northern one-third of the island in 1974 after a coup d'etat aimed at uniting the

Turkish Cypriot state, is boycotting the conference because it does not recognise the government of President Vassilou, the Greek Cypriot leader.

The IPU voted yesterday to accept Afghanistan and Laos as members but suspended Benin.



A woman walks past a banner advertising a play in Edendale black township on Monday. More than 50 people have been killed and thousands left homeless during factional fighting over the past week. (Reuters wirephoto)

Troops to halt Natal clashes

'Violence must end'

Mandela pleads

JOHANNESBURG, April 3, (AP): Heavily-armed soldiers and police in armoured vehicles began deploying today after the government ordered a major crack down on black factional fighting that has cost hundreds of lives.

Police said reinforcements were moving into the shattered Edendale Valley in the southeastern province of Natal to halt clashes between rival Zulu tribal factions. Police Major Piet Kitching said at least 55 people had died and hundreds were injured in the past week.

"This violence must end," Mandela told about 200 ANC supporters in the township wracked by a black power struggle since 1983.

The main combatants are ANC supporters and backers of the Inkatha Party headed by Zulu homeland leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Since heavy fighting began four years ago, more than 4,000 blacks have died in Natal province. Fierce battles of the past week have killed at least 53 people, injured hundreds and caused 15,000 residents to flee.

In Edendale valley, nights are filled with gunshots, screams and the explosion of petrol bombs. The morning reveals bodies lying in the streets and fields, houses on fire and women and children burrying along the roads carrying hastily wrapped belongings.

Mandela travelled to the heart of the so-called "Valley of Death" to meet residents the ANC and Inkatha should be working together.

"We are not fighting Inkatha. We are fighting apartheid and the forces of oppression," he told a crowd of 2,000 who shoved into a church hall in Edendale.

He repeated the message in Imbali, where local residents said four men died the night before in fighting.

Hundreds of ANC supporters lined the ridges of the hills around the township to glimpse Mandela's motorcade on the opposite hill.

They said they were afraid to pass through the Inkatha section of town to hear Mandela's speech. As he talked to the few hundred who tramped across muddy fields to see him, the crowd stirred and pointed to Inkatha men gathering on an opposite hill.

Mandela repeated his desire to meet with Buthelezi, an old friend despite their political differences.

But reaction to the government moves was generally positive. The liberal opposition Democratic party said the security forces had to end the violence.

The pro-apartheid opposition Conservative Party denounced De Klerk's moves today saying it proved the government was pushing the nation into "anarchy and chaos." The opposition group opposes De Klerk's attempts to end apartheid and scrap white-minority rule.

The African National Congress, the main black opposition group, pulled out of planned April 11 meetings with the government to protest police firing on a protest last week in a black township near Sebokeng.

Pentagon to release Stealth secrets

WASHINGTON, April 3, (AP): The Defence Department is releasing long-classified information about the Delta-winged F-117A Stealth fighter jet, kept secret for years and finally used in combat during the US invasion of Panama.

Responding to requests from reporters, officials scheduled a briefing today that was expected to provide pictures, cost and performance information about the aircraft's radar-avoiding aircraft.

The cost of the programme has never been made public.

The so-called "Stealth" technology refers to design and materials that reduce the ability of enemy radar to detect the craft. This can be achieved by using designs that avoid the direct impact of radar, and by using composite materials that can absorb the radar's energy.

Although the plane reportedly has been operational since 1983, the Pentagon refused to even acknowledge that it existed until November 1988.

At that time, only one photograph of the jet was released. Aviation experts contend the picture was carefully selected to conceal the real dimensions of the plane's radical, swept-back form.

The air force used the super-secret plane in combat for the first time during the invasion of Panama last Dec 20, to bomb a field outside barracks of the Panamanian defence forces.

Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said the fighter-bomber was used to "disorient, stun and confuse" the PDF so it could not react to the US paratroopers dropping onto the nearby Rio Hato airfield.

The fighter was designed to penetrate any radar defence and bomb targets before enemy forces can react.

The plane has stark, angular facets in contrast to the smoother, bat-winged form of the controversial and costly B-2 Stealth bomber.

The F-117A fulfills a non-nuclear role that is held by the B-2, a \$350-million bomber still in development.

Lockheed Corp. was scheduled to deliver the last of its 59 planes this year. Two squadrons of the planes reportedly are operational at Tonopah test range airfield in Nevada, where they have been carefully screened from public view.

For most of their existence, the planes have flown at night to avoid detection by Soviet satellites.

More recently, the plane has flown during the daytime and photographs showing its faceted form and swallow tail have been published in technical journals and magazines.

Bombs rock Greek cities

ELA, May 1st claim responsibility

ATHENS, April 3, (Reuters): A series of bomb explosions rocked Athens and the northern city of Salonia today injuring a police officer and causing damage to government and union buildings ahead of national elections on Sunday.

An anonymous caller told newspapers the extreme-left guerrilla groups Revolutionary Popular Struggle (ELA) and May 1st placed the bombs. It was the first time the two groups jointly took responsibility for bomb attacks.

The time-bombs went off outside the Economy Ministry, the General Confederation of Greek Workers and the Federation of Greek Industries in central Athens.

One policeman patrolling the area was taken to hospital with cuts from broken glass. Another bomb caused serious damage to the buildings of the Federation of Northern Greek Industries in Salonia.

ELA and May 1st have waged a bombing campaign in recent years against government buildings, police stations and private businesses. May 1st guerrillas shot dead a public prosecutor in January 1989.

The bomb explosions were the latest in a series of violent incidents in the run-up to national elections on April 8. On Sunday a man was shot dead in clashes between supporters of rival political parties on the island of Crete.

Last Tuesday time bombs destroyed a number of cars belonging to diplomats of Eastern European countries.

The leader of Greece's conservative New Democracy Party accused the rival Socialists yesterday of hacking organized violence prior to the April 8 general elections.

Constantine Mitsotakis spoke a day after shots fired from a passing car killed a Socialist supporter and injured four people in Iraklion, Crete.

Yesterday, a bomb demolished two vehicles in Iraklion. No injuries were reported.

The bomb was planted in a parking lot near the home of Evangelis Kefaloyannis, whose brother, Manolis, is a ranking New Democracy official.

Neither damaged car belonged to the Kefaloyannis family, spokesman said on condition of not being identified.

In Athens, a fire-bomb slightly damaged the suburban political headquarters of George Biridimis, a candidate of the Pan-hellenic Socialist Movement headed by former Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

Sunday's violence erupted when Socialist supporters set up barricades in an attempt to stop conservatives approaching a pre-election rally led by Mitsotakis.

Papandreou described Mitsotakis' statements as "inflammatory" and "morally unacceptable." He spoke in a television interview from his home.

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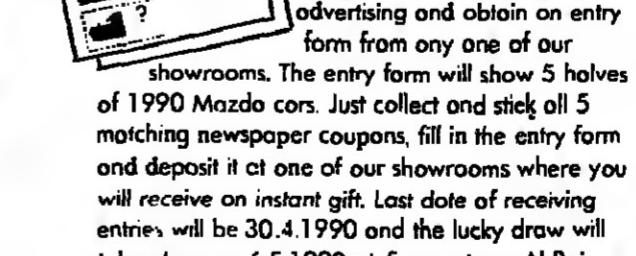
PROGRAMME

DATE	VENUE	EVENT
27/4/1990	Sports ground behind Cinema Jaleeb Shiyukh	Inauguration of celebrations and festival games
11/5/1990	Musselah Beach Resort of T.E.C.	Garden Fete
17/5/1990	Kuwait English School Auditorium / Sahwa Starlite Theatre Entertainment City	Mushairah
18/5/1990	Entertainment City	Valedictory function & musical night

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

IMAGINATION is more important than knowledge —
Albert Einstein, German-born physicist (1879-1955).

OPINION

Saddam's response to Israel praised

APPARENTLY, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has been "humble" in his response to the Israeli threat as he said that he would destroy half of Israel if it carries out any aggression on Iraq.

Obviously, Israel knows with whom it is dealing and also knows men who translate their words into action. Further, Israel is aware that the present situation is unlike the one when it attacked the Iraqi nuclear plant in 1983 when Iraq was busy in the war. That aggression has certainly left an indelible mark on the Iraqi thinking and it will not pass without Iraq redressing the issue — whether in the near or distant future.

Saddam Hussein is the man who appreciates that the sharpness of the knife has many features. It shaves men's beards and at the same time cuts when used improperly. Saddam Hussein certainly supports "soft shaving" if good relations are the aim. But, shaving becomes too dangerous and deadly against those who attempt to misuse the concept of good relations.

Israel realises that big powers become proud of the victorious at the end as results ultimately matter for these big powers. The very fact that President Saddam had born in mind when he led his country to victory.

The results of wars have either black or white colours and are created by leaders who know how to create victory. Death is the same, whether it comes through defeat or victory. But, it is sweeter for Saddam when it comes with victory and this is what happened when he led his people to victory against those who tried to invade his country.

Israel realises with whom it is dealing now — a people and a leadership who have not yet taken off their military uniform, at the same time speaking of prosperity and progress. These people want to see their country Iraq, which once fed 50 million people and compared thought and creativity with gold, retaining its cultural and intellectual status.

We say this in spite of the fact that we in the Arab world have always been looking for peace, we do not want Israel and others to miscalculate their positions against Iraq, simply because we do not want to see more bloodshed and fighting.

Iraq wants to restore back its civilisation and achieve prosperity like a highly modern country.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Punjab bill fails
Government embarrassed

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister V.P. Singh's government will take quite some time to live down the stunning embarrassment it suffered in the Lok Sabha Friday when it could not get the 64th constitution amendment bill through because it failed to muster even a simple majority in the house.

The bill, seeking to facilitate the extension of president's rule in Punjab by another six months because conditions are not conducive for holding of assembly elections, had already been passed by the Rajya Sabha.

For the ruling National Front, it appeared to be a clear case of self-inflicted humiliation because, despite the issuance of a three-line whip, several senior ministers themselves were absent during the voting at the constitution stage of the bill.

Those absent included Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal, Industry Minister Ajit Singh, Railway Minister George Fernandes, Communication Minister K.P. Unnikrishnan and Civil Supplies Minister Nathu Ram Mirdhan, senior leaders like Chandra Shekhar, who earlier in the day had made a very critical speech, were also not seen in the house at the time of the voting.

Under the Indian constitution, any amendment to the constitution can be affected when the bill to that effect is passed by both houses of Parliament with a "majority of the total membership of the house and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting."

On Friday, only 241 members from all sides were present when the bill was put to vote, despite the fact that all the mainline parties, including the Congress, had agreed to support it. As a first condition, the bill needed the support of a simple majority of 273 members in view of its total strength of 545.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1581 — England's Queen Elizabeth I knights Sir Francis Drake.
- 1611 — Denmark's King Christian IV declares war on Sweden.
- 1618 — Cardinal Richelieu is ordered into exile in Avignon for intrigues with France's Queen mother Marie de Medici.
- 1660 — England's King Charles II issues declaration of Breda, promising religious tolerance.
- 1827 — Note is sent by Russia, France and Britain to Sultan of Turkey urging truce in war with Greece.
- 1844 — Germany occupies South-West Africa, Togoland and Cameroons.
- 1919 — Soviet republic is established in Bavaria.
- 1933 — US Navy Dirigible Akron falls on Atlantic Ocean off New Jersey, taking 73 lives.
- 1942 — Japanese naval forces sink three British warships in Bay of Bengal during World War II.
- 1959 — Ivory Coast signs series of agreements with Niger, Upper Volta and Dahomey to form Sahel-Benin Union.
- 1964 — Archbishop Makarios abrogates 1960 treaty between Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, and heavy fighting erupts in northwest Cyprus.
- 1986 — Israel formally asks for access to United Nations war crimes commission file on former secretary-general Kurt Waldheim.
- 1989 — At least five people are killed when rockets slam into residential neighbourhoods of Kabul, Afghanistan.

Spectre of Stasi being put to rest

E. Germans to screen deputies

EAST BERLIN, (Reuters): Forty years after countless old Nazis tripped unpunished into a new Stalinist order, East Germans fear old Stalinists are slithering into their new democracy.

An uproar over suspected links of new parliamentarians to the former Stalinist security police recalls the post-war challenge of de-Nazification which East Germany virtually ignored for practical and political reasons.

Screen

Parties anxious to build a credible democracy after the 1989 fall of the communist dictatorship agreed on Thursday to create a parliamentary commission to screen all 400 deputies for past collaboration with the Stasi police.

"What we have here is a problem similar to 1945," said Sebastian Pflugbeil of New Forum, the Reform Movement that mobilised demonstrations across the country on Thursday for a crackdown on old Stasi agents in all walks of life.

"We must come to terms with our Stasi past across the board. We also don't want mayors who once worked for the Stasi. We don't want our children to be taught by ex-Stasi," Pflugbeil said in a newspaper interview.

No such moral confrontation with a painful heritage was attempted or permitted by the Moscow-sponsored Stalinists who founded the East German state in 1949.

Vast numbers of low-ranking party hacks and informers who greased the wheels of Hitler's regime quietly retained their posts under communism. These included such pillars of the community as mayors, teachers, judges and policemen.

Nazis

Scarce technical and professional skills proved a ticket from the Nazi past into the communist future. More than 70 per cent of teachers had been Nazi party members, for example.

Keen to bolster propaganda painting East Germany as the first and only German state free of fascism, communist rulers swept their people's Nazi heritage under the rug and denied any moral responsibility for the past.

Those people unable or unwilling to melt into the new system fled to the West — or died in internment camps run by Stalin's dreaded NKVD security police.

Three mass graves containing casualties of those camps have been unearthed in East Germany in recent weeks, a grisly sideshow to the anguished row over the Stasi.

Four decades later, East Germans are grappling with the demons of another fallen totalitarian system — Stalinism — and are determined to prevent its fellow travellers from discreetly prospering in their new democracy.

The parallel between the immediate postwar era and today is the moral conflict between getting on with building a future and coming to terms with an unpleasant past," a Western diplomat said.

"You can't compare the Stasi with the Nazis. They're very different beasts. The Nazis caused infinitely more suffering in 12 years than the Stasi did in 40," he said.

Purge

"But the ensuing challenge for East Germans is similar — to what extend can you purge old Stalinists from public life without leaving yourself short of people to run the country?"

The now defunct Stasi, the omniscient praetorian guard of Stalinist rule, had 85,000 agents and fielded an estimated 109,000 informers in every walk of life.

Anti-Stasi clamour huffing East Germany underscores a deep emotional need to settle scores with those whose snooping warped and ruined



De Maiziere... clearing name of Stasi affiliation. (Reuters wirephoto)

countless lives.

East Germany's top three politicians — Christian Democrat and prospective prime minister Lothar De Maiziere, Communist Party chief Gregor Gysi and Social Democrat Ibrahim Boehme — now appear to have cleared their names over allegations they were Stasi informers.

But the uproar has drowned out voices which point out the distinction between people who willingly betrayed acquaintances to the Stasi and those who informed only under duress.

Hundreds of thousands of civil servants — teachers, judges, regional administrators and the like

— had to compromise with the Stasi to perform their jobs. Information changed hands even if no paid informers were involved.

Most of those public employees remain in office. Should they be tossed out in a "de-Stalinisation" campaign as well?

The moral conflict may defy solution.

"The communists left behind a wrecked state in more ways than one. It seems the country's economic exhaustion will be more easily overcome than the moral flaw of a land where no one could be sure if his friend was a secret tattler for the oppressors," the West German weekly Die Zeit commented.

Mugabe gets another mandate

Mugabe: enigma

guerrilla soldiers fought against white minority rule.

Mugabe, a man of steely intellect and puritan tastes, often seems puzzled and appalled by the shift

in values which has left many people hostile to his kind of Marxist-Leninist socialism.

Despite his personal hostility to capitalism, he has heeded the advice of Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero and agreed to urge more foreign investment in Zimbabwe. Cautious trade liberalisation is next on the agenda.

Deeply marked by his Jesuit education, Mugabe sees the political struggle against South Africa in stark moral terms.

Like Kenya's President Moi, he is an ex-schoolmaster with a firm belief he knows what is best for his people.

He quickly claimed his election victory as a mandate to legislate for a one-party state, a long-held aim which had been unattainable until now because of constitutional barriers.

"If we feel that the moment has come for us to establish a one-party state we will do so, and the people will support us," he declared. "It is not a Mugabe thing. Our congress agreed on this policy."

Vote

"We can use this vote as a mandate and establish a one-party state, or give the people another chance first," he said.

Mugabe argues that a multi-party system is wrong for Africa and says: "The people want the oneness of one family." For most of its first decade, Zimbabwe was bedevilled by conflict between Mugabe's Zanu-PF and Joshua Nkomo's PF-Zanu.

Since their agreement to merge in December 1987, the country has seen an upturn in economic growth and an end to low-level guerrilla warfare in Matabeleland in white hundreds died.

The ANC leadership has appealed to stop fighting in Natal, where supporters of the United Democratic Front, sympathetic to the ANC and Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's strong Inkatha Movement.

The ANC and many whites said the shooting in Soweto belied Dr De Klerk's promises of a more accommodating white rule.

"I think they're (the ANC) playing for time. Dr De Klerk's pace has been too hot for them," suggested Soal, commenting on the suspension of the talks.

The release of the 71-year-old Mandela from jail in February was ecstatically received by the black community. But his 27-year incarceration raises a real question of how much he and colleagues from the 1950s are in touch with the revolutionary youth of the 1980s.

Withdrawal

Political analyst Robert Schrire of Cape Town indicated the predicament of the older leadership.

"Celebrity" leaders like Mandela and (Walter) Sisulu do not have control on the ground," he charged.

De Klerk may also need a breathing space to get his uneasy white supporters into line.

The fighting in Natal and other black areas, which has taken more than 400 lives since February, has made many whites warier than ever of granting more political freedom to blacks.

Even before the bloody clashes last week some white government officials were talking of a period of "consolidation" before De Klerk introduced further reforms.

Art Bucht

Unification triggers nerves

THERE are a few people — not many — who are slightly nervous about a unified Germany. These folks suffer from déjà vu and, while the world has no reason to shiver, we should address their fears.

Feldman, my watch repairman, is certain he knows how the trouble is going to start. He thinks it will be something like this:

"It's eight years from today, and Germany is统一. Schultz, a former East German bricklayer, and now a prosperous orthodontist, is building a new house in Schnitzel Gardens, which is east of Leipzig.

House

Schultz's architect, Mendelsohn, comes to visit him with the plans. "Schultz, I can get the house on your land but I don't have room for a garage."

"I have to have a garage," Schultz insists. "My new Mercedes-Benz is being delivered in six weeks."

Mendelsohn says, "Look for yourself. Where are we going to build a garage?"

Schultz studies the plans. "How about here?"

Treaty

Schultz says, "A bunch of old men who sold us out signed that treaty. We have a new Germany now, and that Germany permits us to build on any part of the fatherland that we want to."

Mendelsohn tells him, "I'm not suggesting that you are wrong. Admittedly, there are a lot of German-speaking Poles living on the land where we want to build our garage. At the same time, I don't think that Berlin will give us a permit to construct a garage so close to Krakow."

Schultz slams down his fist. "It is not Polish soil, it is German soil. To teach them a lesson I should eat the whole house in Poland, and the garage in Germany."

"They could try to stop you."

"Then Germany must rebuild its air force and its Panzer divisions and have a crash submarine programme. I will not park my car in the driveway to satisfy the scavengers of World War II."

Europe

"If you feel that strongly about it, Schultz," Mendelsohn said, "I'll build the garage in Poland while I am looking."

"I want everyone to be looking. This is my house, this is my garage, this is my land, this is my Europe. Heil real estate."

Mendelsohn responded, "Heil real estate. Now we can talk about the cost of the land we're going to take from Poland!"

"Why should we pay for what was originally ours?" Schultz asks him.

Mendelsohn agrees. "Good point, Schultz, you told me last time to get some estimates for the cost of building a hunting lodge in Czechoslovakia. I have two estimates. One of Czechoslovakia remains independent, and another if it is annexed to us."

"Just give me the annexation figure. Why would Czechoslovakia stay independent when all our German citizens still live there?" Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Natal violence stalls peace

JOHANNESBURG, (Reuters): An upsurge of black warfare in South Africa's tortured province of Natal has stalled a developing political peace process, and raised the spectre of the army being called in to reassess the government's authority.

The politicians say more bloodshed may be inevitable before the government and the African National Congress (ANC) can begin talks aimed at a peaceful transition from white minority rule to something more acceptable to the black majority.

Cliches

Other black communities across the country have also lurchered towards violent conflict, which shows no signs of abating.

The clashes have challenged the capacity of the formerly banned and exiled ANC to control its supporters inside the country and question its credentials as South Africa's most powerful black opposition group.

"Can the old men of the ANC carry a dead? Are the youngsters behind them? I think it's quite delicate to poised," said Johannesburg Member of Parliament Peter Soal of the liberal white Democratic Party.

Both whites and blacks have accused each other of stirring unrest and foot-dragging on the rocky road to peace, embarked on earlier this year when President F.W. De Klerk legalised many black political organisations and freed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Now both sides may need a pause in the process and change.

The ANC on Saturday sheathed explosive "balls about balls" with Pretoria, blaming police for the killing of 17 black demonstrators in a violent protest in Sebokeng township near Johannesburg last Monday. The talks had been set for April 11.

Some independent analysts said the ANC's leadership, by appearing to rush headlong into talks, may have outstripped its support.

ANC officials in Zambia have said the organisation would like to boost its tenuous control over the black townships before meeting De Klerk.

The ANC leadership has appealed to stop fighting in Natal, where supporters of the United Democratic Front, sympathetic to the ANC and Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi

SPD agrees to coalition talks

Monetary union angers GDR

EAST BERLIN, April 3, (Agencies): East Germany's Social Democrats (SPD) said today they would enter coalition negotiations with the election-winning Conservative Alliance for Germany and a smaller Liberal Alliance.

The top SPD leadership had recommended yesterday that the party should not enter coalition talks with the alliance, headed by the Christian Democrats.

But acting SPD leader Markus Meckel told a news conference the entire leadership and parliamentary deputies had decided later on Monday to go into negotiations after all to try to form East Germany's first non-communist government.

Boehme tried to kill himself

Bonn paper claims

BONN, April 3, (Agencies): East German Social Democrat (SPD) leader Ibrahim Boehme, who resigned amid allegations that he worked for the hated Stasi security police, tried to commit suicide last week, a West German newspaper reported today.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, quoting "certain sources in Bonn," said Boehme tried to kill himself last Friday and suffered serious head wounds.

The well-respected newspaper gave no further details except to say the politician was admitted to a hospital.

Yesterday, party sources said Boehme, 46, had collapsed and been taken to hospital at the weekend. He was now staying with friends at a secret address, apparently in West Germany, and was said to be suffering from a recurrent ear infection.

Boehme, his health and nerves shattered by the Stasi charges he has repeatedly denied, is the second top East German politician in recent weeks to resign over allegations of links to the Stasi, the former communist government's secret police.

Thousands of people demonstrated in the East German cities of Dresden and Magdeburg yesterday to protest the alleged connections between new lawmakers and the former Stasi police, the government, news services ADD reported.

The demonstrators demanded a full investigation of the parliament. A group of 15 prominent East German Social Leaders and intellectuals issued a statement also demanding a probe.

A top political leader said the influence of the organisation was so widespread that East Germany may need international help to ferret out former secret police operatives from the new leadership.

Boehme, who twice lost jobs



Markus Meckel

because he spoke out against the former communist government, resigned just three days after he personally inspected the files of the secret service network known as the Stasi.

The party said in a statement earlier that Boehme fainted and was hospitalised on Friday after inspecting the Stasi files on him.

He was released after an examination and was reported staying with friends.

The Stasi are reviled by most East Germans because they controlled and intimidated citizens with a wide network of informants during the years of Stalinist rule.

Boehme, 46, said he was resigning because the process of clearing his name will require "lengthy investigations" and further burden the task of forming East Germany's first democratic government, said August Kamilli, a high-ranking Social Democrat.

Boehme had also cited health problems, including heart trouble and an inner ear infection, said Markus Meckel, the party's deputy chairman and Boehme's likely successor.

The Christian Democrats (CDU) won more than 40 percent of the vote in the country's first free elections on March 18 and want a coalition with a large enough parliamentary majority to change the constitution and secure early unification with West Germany.

The leadership of the SPD, which took around 20 percent of the vote on March 18, had been fighting shy of full-blown negotiations because the CDU insisted on having its alliance partner, the right-wing German Social Union (DSU) in the coalition.

But the leadership, hit by the resignation yesterday of party chief Ibrahim Boehme amid a row over alleged security police links, appeared to have been overruled by SPD deputies to the 400-seat Parliament that convenes today.

Meckel said the problem of the DSU would still have to be discussed during the negotiations.

"We will still have to discuss the type and means of participation the DSU has in a coalition," he said.

The small Liberal Alliance of Free Democrats (BFD) had already met the Conservative three-party grouping headed by the CDU and agreed in principle to join a coalition.

Meckel said the SPD would only go into a coalition if it felt its election programme was sufficiently well reflected in overall planned government policy.

East German Premier Hans Modrow yesterday predicted the four World War II allies could soon be facing a single German government in talks over the nation's reunification.

The communist leader did not repeat his criticism of a West German-proposed formula for monetary union, which has drawn sharp denunciations from East German politicians.

In an address to the global panel gathering on Europe's political and economic future, Modrow said he preferred moves toward reunifying the two Germanys to be dependent on progress in the so-called two-plus-four talks.

The latest idea for uniting the currencies of the two Germanys has angered East Germans, prompting them to organise protests and accuse the West German chancellor of reneging on campaign promises.

Karl Otto Pochl, the influential head of West Germany's central bank, has insisted that most East German marks be swapped at a 2-to-1 rate when the mighty Deutsche mark takes over as East Germany's currency sometime this year.

But the idea has created an uproar among East Germans expecting a general 1-to-1 swap. The proposal has also led East Germans to accuse West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl of breaking promises he made while campaigning on behalf of a conservative alliance.

Postal workers in the East German city of Suhl yesterday held a warning strike to press for a 1-to-1 conversion rate, and East Germany's labour union federation is organising a nation-wide demonstration for Thursday.

Both German states have agreed to set up a currency union, viewing it as a crucial step toward unifying their countries.

Under the current plans, West Germany eventually would take over East Germany's economic policies. Bonn would like the currency union in place by July 1, but many details remain to be worked out.

8,100 buried at Stalinist camp: daily

EAST BERLIN, April 3, (UPI): An East German daily said yesterday that about 8,100 German prisoners of war were believed buried in mass graves at the site of a Soviet detention camp near the East German town of Muelenberg.

The East German authorities, which had long ignored the existence of such mass graves, have brought the issue to public attention recently and started exhuming bodies at one site near East Berlin last Friday.

Other mass graves were discovered on the grounds of a former detention camp in Neubrandenburg.

The Saechsische Zeitung, attributing its information to former inmates of the Muelenberg Detention Camp in the south of the country, said the prisoners had been subjected to "humane treatment" that often led to their deaths.

Muelenberg regional history expert, Herbert Mueller, said an estimated 46,000 prisoners were detained in the camp which operated between 1945 and 1948.

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Shevardnadze in US talks; summit date may be announced

Lithuania seeking a compromise

MOSCOW, April 2, (AP): Lithuanian officials are seeking a compromise with Moscow over independence and attempting to cool tensions.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis made conciliatory comments yesterday in a telegram to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and in comments to the Supreme Council Legislature of Lithuania.

Lithuania's declaration of independence on March 11 "may seem to some people... a demand that power be handed over the very next day," he said. "We did not expect this and did not count upon it."

Instead, Landsbergis told legislators the republic had stated "how by means of agreements and a gradual takeover of certain functions we would consolidate our independence."

There was no immediate response from Moscow.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze arrives today in Washington, and officials said he would be questioned closely by President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker about the independence crisis in Lithuania.

However, a senior US official said the Lithuania issue would not crowd other important matters from the agenda.

Baker and Shevardnadze also are likely to discuss — and perhaps announce — a date for the next summit meeting between Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The summit is tentatively planned to be held in Washington during the second half of June.

Shevardnadze was to meet at Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland at mid-day by Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

Soviet soldiers yesterday continued to occupy a prosecutor's office in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, and a newspaper printing plant, and legislator loyal to the Communist Party told editors of pro-independence.

The communists' political leaders struggle daily with Moscow's effort to make them renounce the declaration, people all over the small Baltic nation are quickly moving to establish a state run on its own principles.



Vilnius residents queue at the Central Post Office to send telegrams of protest to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in reply to his recent appeal to the people of Lithuania. (Reuter wirephoto)



Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis pauses to reflect during meeting on Saturday.

Lithuanian steps toward freedom

VILNIUS, USSR, April 3, (AP): The standard photograph of Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin, usually hanging in the office of every factory manager, has vanished from the wall over the desk of Vincas Babilius.

"I had all the books, too," Babilius said, pointing to bare shelves that once held the works of Lenin and Marx.

Since Lithuania declared independence on March 11, Babilius no longer feels compelled to follow the Soviet model in order to run the Vilnius electronic measuring device factory.

While Lithuania's political leaders struggle daily with the required political meetings that helped ensure the communists' grip on power but consumed time.

"At work, you have to work," he said simply. Lithuania's political leaders struggle daily with the required political meetings that helped ensure the communists' grip on power but consumed time.

Lithuanians are forging ahead with preparations for the day when secession will be a reality. 50 years after the Baltic state was absorbed into the Soviet Union.

They have an enormous task. Lithuania's telephone and connections to the outside world go through Moscow. Its sole direct route to Poland and the outside world is a tiny back road, so overused that passing through border formalities can require days. Its relatively robust economy is intertwined with the lumbering Soviet economic system, which is rapidly careening downhill.

Babilius has begun to cut the ties, starting with the required political meetings that helped ensure the communists' grip on power but consumed time.

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Lithuanians are forging ahead with preparations for the day when secession will be a reality. 50 years after the Baltic state was absorbed into the Soviet Union.

On the Lithuanian-Byelorussian border, the new government so far has been unable to station frontier guards because of the angry reaction from Moscow.

But some enterprising citizens have chopped off the Russian-language half of a huge concrete sign at the village of Sumskas. They've repainted the remaining half so that sign now says "Lithuanian Republic," dropping the "Soviet-socialist" that used to be in the middle.

The Cultural Ministry is gathering artist's designs for Lithuanian currency and banker Romualdas Višinskis has already sought printing bids in West Germany.

The newspaper Sovetskaya Lita, or Soviet Lithuania, has changed its name to Eko Lita, or Echo of Lithuania.

talks that included discussion of the "legal status of Lithuania in relation to the Soviet Constitution and international law," Landsbergis said.

But the Lithuanian president told lawmakers he did not mean the republic was ready to renounce its declaration of independence. Instead, it wants debate and discussion with Moscow.

Lithuania was ready to open

talks that included discussion of the "legal status of Lithuania in relation to the Soviet Constitution and international law," Landsbergis said.

His comments were carried on Lithuania radio and monitored by the British Broadcasting Corp. in London.

Murder charges denied

BUCHAREST, April 3, (UPI): The brother of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, saying he only shot in the air, denied murder and genocide charges at the opening of one of the most high-profile trials since the December revolution.

Gen. Nicolae Andruța Ceausescu, who faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment if convicted, is the closest Ceausescu relative to stand trial for crimes stemming from the communist dictator's near quarter century rule.

The former chief of a security police training unit is accused of fatally shooting seven people Dec. 21 during some of the heaviest fighting between loyalist forces and anti-government demonstrators. Ceausescu's regime fell the next day and the dictator and his wife were executed Dec. 25.

He also is charged with inciting others to commit genocide, attempted murder and weapons offenses.

Prosecutors said they would produce witnesses who saw General Ceausescu shoot seven people in the crowd outside the Intercontinental Hotel in central Bucharest.



Lt General Nicolae Andruța Ceausescu, in dock in Bucharest on first day of his trial for "aggravated murder" and other crimes. (Reuter wirephoto)

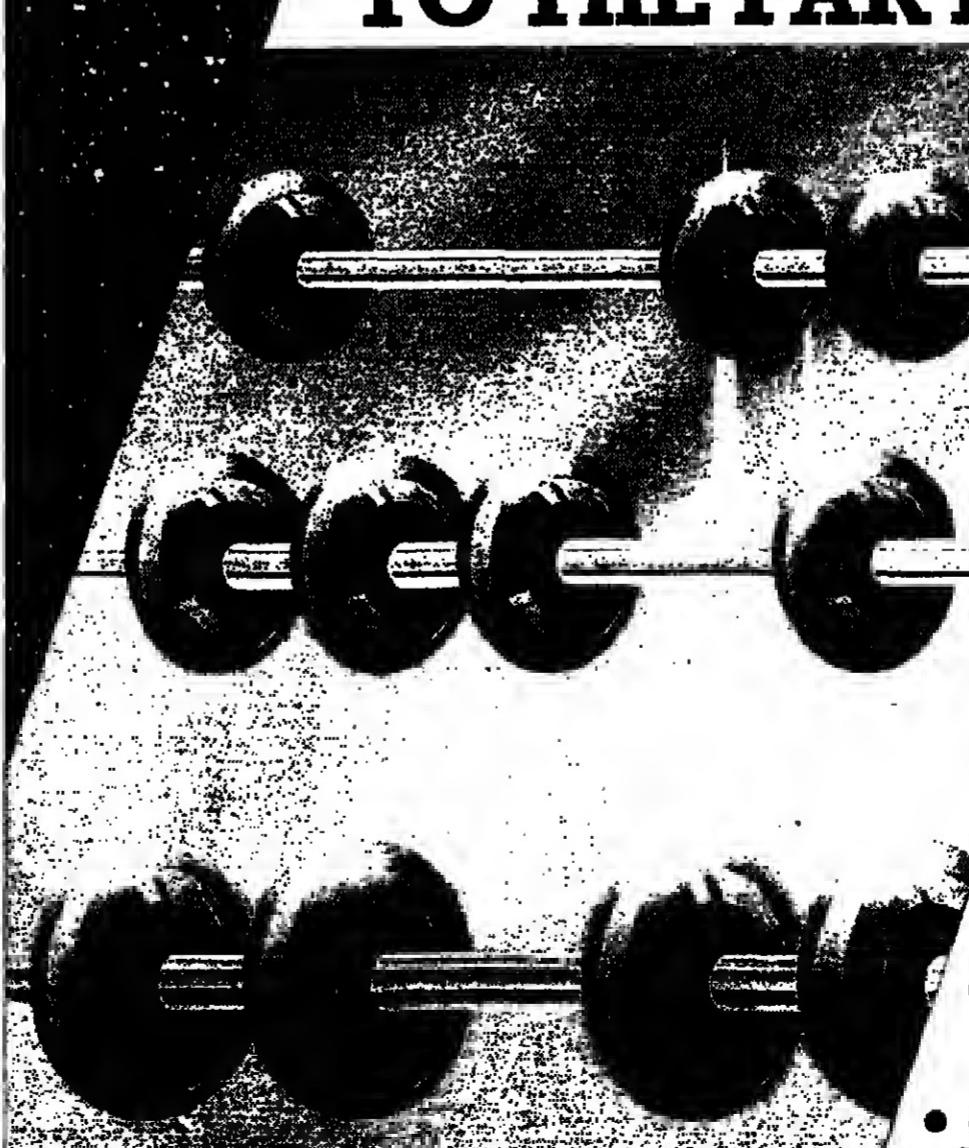
EEC urges quicker aid for East Europe

LUXEMBOURG, April 3, (Reuter): European Economic Community foreign ministers called yesterday for EEC aid programmes to be extended to all of Eastern Europe as quickly as possible, diplomats said.

They quoted Italy's Gianni de Michelis as saying that the community had to provide continual encouragement for these countries rather than wait for them to complete their transitions from communism to democracy.

The EEC last year launched a programme of food aid, training and other economic assistance for Poland and Hungary, the two countries in the vanguard of change.

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Bee-keepers being encouraged in Kuwait

Bid to produce honey

provision of the local needs of honey.

He added that the authority has monitored bee keepers in the country in order to probe the problems facing them and to discuss diseases which apiaries may encounter.

In the light of its discussion with the beekeepers the authority had set up the organisational regulations governing the imports of bees which will be subject to certain safety conditions to ensure that imported bees were free of disease. He

added that the authority was concentrating on the import of bees which are capable of adapting to the country's climatic conditions.

Apart from the above, the official said that the authority inspectors were providing the necessary instructions and guidance to bee keepers. Additionally, the authority has organised field training courses for bee keepers entitled "How to raise and care for bees". He added that about 73 trainees were involved in these

courses. The trainees were subject to an intensified programme under the supervision of the Agricultural Guidance Department at the authority. These training courses included a number of films and successful graduates will be given certificates.

In conclusion, the official called on citizens dealing in the agricultural field not to hesitate to contact the departments concerned at the authority for obtaining the guidance related to their activities.

Influence assuming alarming proportions

USING personal connections, more commonly known as "wasta" has every indication of assuming alarming proportions as it destroys the rights of others through illegal exploitation of official channels.

A local daily interviewed a number of officials in several sectors to highlight this disregard for official etiquette.

Undersecretary of the Higher Education Ministry, Dr Msaed Al Haroun said that "wasta" is a tool used to overcome regulations and laws and termed it as one of the most negative phenomena to have appeared recently in Kuwait society.

He said that due to the small size of the Kuwaiti family, "wasta" is predominant.

The official said that the time has come to combat this phenomenon and sincere efforts by all officials should be exerted to ensure that the law is fully implemented and the rights of others are not prejudiced by the use of influence.

Violation

Assistant Undersecretary for Services Affairs at the Ministry of Public Health, Yousef Al Ateiq described "wasta" as a blight which is rapidly permeating all sectors of Kuwait society.

He warned that it is tantamount to violating the law and called on officials to ensure that they uphold the letter of law as well as the spirit and to demonstrate to their subordinates by effective examples that "wasta" will not be tolerated and to root out this unprofessional conduct.

He admitted that the medical services are not exempted from this influence and underscored the fact that the medical profession should predominantly set an example by treating all in an equal manner. Candidly speaking, he said that some employees at the medical sector easily succumb to social pressures applied by some groups. He stressed that physicians should follow a uniform policy to gain the trust of their patients and should refrain from violating the spirit of the "code of ethics" at all times.

Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Justice, Abdul Aziz Al Dakheel pointed out that individuals should fully realise that holding a specific job in any sector is a legal responsibility which should be carried out honestly.

Dabagh can never until this moment forget her father's watch being snatched by a soldier who assured her mother that they would come again. She with her mother and brothers spent that night at their grandfather's house after the soldiers took her father away.

The next morning they were informed by the neighbours about the same soldiers asking about her mother.

For two years they continued to live at their grandfather's house until her father was released from jail.

Dabagh recalled the past when their house was bombed by Israelites and were forced along with her family to spend two consecutive days trying to go in a boat from Jaffa to Gaza.

"That was like a nightmare as the boat

tossed on the high waves" she said.

The suffering that you undergo becomes more painful when you are forced to live outside your homeland", she said.

Dabagh who is a staunch defender of the rights of her people to their lands, said that after 40 years the determination to solve the Palestinian issue still exists, yet with

Solving the dilemma of young Palestinians

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

THE Palestinian issue has wider ramifications than what meets the eye. Without elucidating on the usurpation of Palestinian lands per se, the dispersion of Palestinians to all corners of the globe is a cause of dilemma to the Palestinian individual and social "think-tank" in these countries where the majority of these displaced Palestinians have sought a certain level of unification among themselves", according to head of the Palestinian Women's Association in Kuwait, Siham Dabagh.

Under her leadership the association is looking after the education of 2,600 Palestinian students in Kuwait providing KD 200,000 annually for their tuition. The association also attributes to the welfare of 82 Palestinian families in Kuwait, also it has a number of 4,000 members participating in several activities of this association.

Dabagh who is an official with long experience said that every Palestinian passed through one problem or another, simply because he or she is outside and far away from his homeland.

Dabagh speaking with emotions, related her past experience and suffering when she and her family were forcibly evicted from their house and moved out of Jaffa. She fervently hoped that they would return in a couple of days, but this hope never materialised.

Dabagh with deep memories of her childhood in Palestine never forgets the scene of the British soldiers, who broke into their house many times searching for her father "head" of the Muslim Youth Association and a well-known activist against the British mandate in Palestine".

Dabagh, in her early childhood at that time remembers her father reciting the Quran when the British soldiers came asking her mother about him. Her father, a man who was 45 years old at that time presented himself to the soldiers and declared "I am Ali Dabagh".

She remembered another incident from her childhood. Once she wanted to buy shoes. On her lap and told her that she is "saving money to buy a piece of land to cultivate it and live on instead of leaving her country and losing her husband in exile", she added.

Dabagh said women inside and outside the occupied lands are fully aware of their role and the priorities instead of feeding their children with milk and food they feed their minds with thoughts of regaining their lands.

Palestinian women wherever they are form associations so that they can fulfil their need of staying in close contact with each other.

The struggle will be carried on by the next generation. Her grandson who is only six years old already talks about saving money and fighting Israelites. She said such ideas are taking root in the minds of the young Palestinians thanks to the inspiration provided by their parents and grandparents.



Siham Dabagh

the intifada they will be able to regain Palestine.

Talking about Palestinians inside the occupied lands, she said all Palestinians irrespective of their age or religion support each other in fighting the enemy. The mentality of all Palestinians dispersed all over the globe is focused to spare no efforts or money in the support of their heroic intifada.

Women in particular became more open-minded and educated. Citing an example of a wife of an expelled activist that wrote back to inform him that she is "saving money to buy a piece of land to cultivate it and live on instead of leaving her country and losing her husband in exile", she added.

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Stocking up for breakfast

Consumption, specially for families during the holy month of Ramadan increases considerably compared to other months in the year and for many families expenditure exceeds budget every year during this period.

In addition to the increased needs of commodities specially food stuffs, the increase of expenditure is attributed to the increase in prices of several commodities such as "Omar Al Been, nuts of all types, cheeses and other such commodities. It is tradition that families visit one another during the Ramadan period to break the fast and consequently delicacies have to be provided and that too in large quantities.

Ismael Ibrahim a shopper anticipates price hikes to be even steeper than the past due to the increase in the salaries of government employees and commented that a lack of price censorship has

encouraged many merchants to increase their prices. He commented that the consumers protection department should play an effective role in controlling prices.

He said that he usually prepares a month in advance of Ramadan and purchases most of his good from wholesale shops. The general trend to rush at the eleventh hour by most consumers leads to a shortage and creates an artificial demand leading to a price increase, he said.

Another consumer said that prices of vegetables and other fruits enjoy price increases as they have coincided with the spring season. However, he said that many families have stored other items that they need for a month and commented that these items fall within the range of goods having long expiry dates.

Spray bedrooms advice

Mosquitoes invade country

SWARMS of the common mosquito have begun to invade the country as a result of the relative stability in the weather conditions and is a cause of nuisance to people who sit outdoors to enjoy the fresh breeze.

According to an insecticide specialist at the Public Health Ministry, Dr Ali Slati, the insect currently seen in the residential areas is a seasonal type of insect which commonly spreads with the advent of summer, adding that it carries no disease-causing viruses.

He pointed out that there are two species of this type of insect, stinging and non-stinging. Some

people have a certain level of allergy to it, who break out at the mere landing of this insect on their skins, due to the alkaline substance secreted by the insect.

This insect is expected to disappear from Kuwait within two or three weeks the official said, but in the meantime the sand storm yesterday could wipe out its presence as moderate weather condition is responsible for its reproduction.

He said that the organic material and algae found close to coasts, farms swimming pools or house gardens form the fertile breeding bed for this type of insect. They also become extremely activated by southern or northern winds.

He stressed the current Health Ministry efforts to combat this insect adding that the main concern is to destroy diseases-carrying insects, using insecticides safe to the environment and to people.

He urged people not to use strong insecticides to kill these insects at home, stressing that the common house-fly killer will give good results if it does not contain long-term insect killer.

He said that it will be advisable to lightly spray bedrooms with insecticides before using them, pointing that the light attract this insect.

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He stressed the current Health Ministry efforts to combat this insect adding that the main concern is

Ministries respond to CSC administrative plan

Bid to upgrade performance

THE Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Development Affairs at Kuwait's Civil Service Commission (CSC) Dr Naser Al Sanea was quoted as saying that about 29 governmental authorities had showed great response to the first follow-up report prepared by CSC to be referred to the Cabinet.

He added that the report was prepared in accordance with the Cabinet decision

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri audience

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): HH the Amir received yesterday board chairman and members of the Qadessiyeh Sports Club and players of the volleyball team as well as chairman and board members of Kazemah Sports Club and players of the basketball team on occasion of winning first places in the volleyball and basketball contests of the 10th Arab Gulf Tournament, recently held in Kuwait.

The audience was attended by Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed and President of the Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed.

Premier receives

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdalla Al Sabah received yesterday at Bayan Palace board chairman and members of the Qadessiyeh Sports Club and players of the volleyball team as well as chairman and board members of Kazemah Sports Club and players of the basketball team on occasion of winning first places in the volleyball and basketball contests of the 10th Arab Gulf Tournament, recently held in Kuwait.

The audience was attended by Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed and President of the Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed.

Kuwaiti envoy

CAIRO, April 3, (Kuna): Egypt's Prime Minister Dr Atef Sidki yesterday received Kuwait's Ambassador in Cairo Abdul Razzak Al Kandary.

Later, Kandary told Kuna that he has conveyed a message from HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdalla containing an invitation to Dr Sidki to visit Kuwait.

The envoy added the invitation has been accepted by Dr Sidki and a date for the visit would be determined after the present Ramadan (fasting) month.

New Syrian envoy

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): Syria has named Dr Mustafa Haj Ali to become its new ambassador to Kuwait, it was learnt today.

Dr Haj Ali is his country's first ambassador to Kuwait in more than two years when the assignment of his predecessor, Dr Elisa Dawabsheh expired in late December 1987.

Labour discussions

ABU DHABI, April 3, (Reuter): Arab countries fear that change in Eastern Europe will bring in new cheap labour and force out around one million Arab workers.

United Arab Emirates Labour and Social Affairs Minister Khalifa Al Roumi was quoted by Al Ittihad newspaper today as saying the Arabs would discuss the problem with West European countries.

Iraq-Tunisia co-op

TUNIS, April 3, (Kuna): The higher Iraqi-Tunisian joint committee for co-operation will hold a session here tomorrow, it was announced here yesterday.

Iraqi First Deputy Premier Taha Yasin Ramadan will lead the Iraqi side in the two-day talks which will centre on ways of increasing the level of commercial exchanges in addition to bolstering bilateral relations.

Mubarak receives

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad received in his office yesterday manager of the Lebanese Dar Essayad Press House, Bassam Ferhan on occasion of his visit to Kuwait at the invitation of the information ministry.

Snake causes car crash

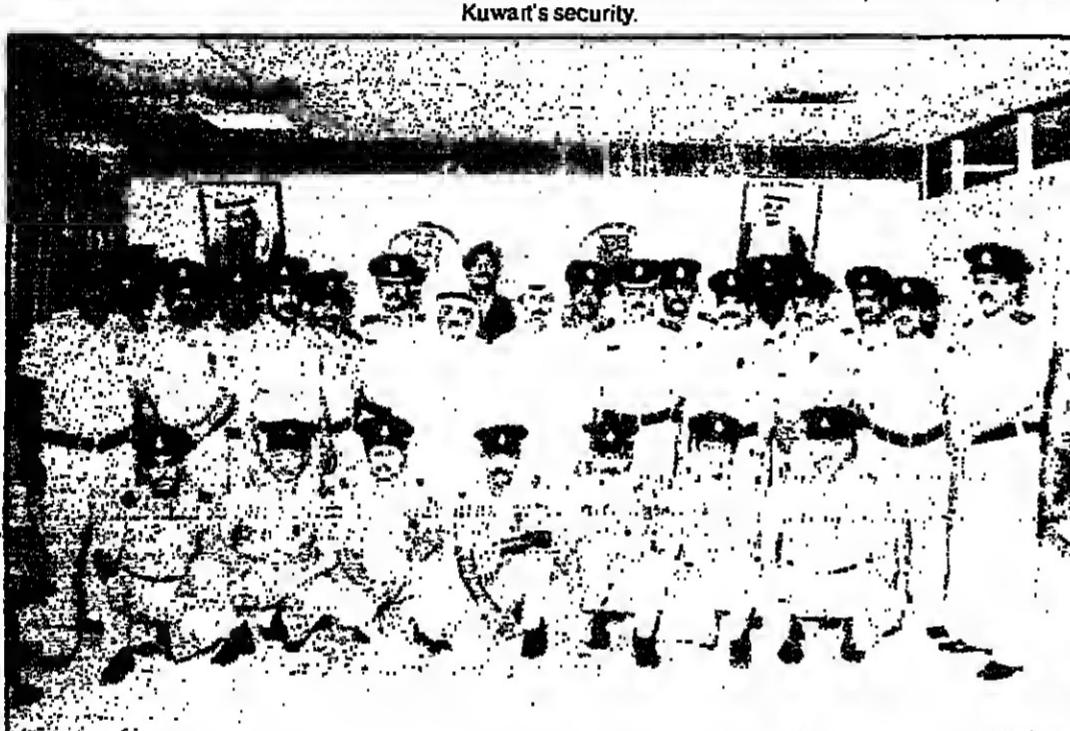
NICOSIA, April 3, (Reuter): A man who thought he was alone in his car as he drove to a village west of Muscat was surprised to find he had a visitor — a three-foot snake.

The Oman News Agency said he panicked, crashed and was knocked unconscious. Police said the snake was found unharmed in the wreckage.



Amiri medals awarded

Director-General of the Criminal Evidence Department, Col Saud Al Bargas gave away yesterday medals provided by HH the Amir to a number of officers in the department for their excellent services. Col Bargas called upon the honoured officers to consider these medals as a motivation to protect and preserve Kuwait's security.



From the courts

Man gets 7 years for attempted rape

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man to seven years penal servitude for the attempted rape of his neighbour's newly hired Sri Lankan maid.

The court was told that the accused approached the maid early one morning when she was washing the car of her employer and demanded to know her name and nationality, which she willingly provided thinking he was a security officer.

However, the accused waited until no-one was in the house and then climbed the wall and went to the maid's quarters where he tried to rape her. However, she put up a valiant fight and managed to leave scratch marks on his face before he escaped.

Based on the description of the maid's testimony, police successfully arrested the accused.

■ SECURITY MEN in Jahra arrested the driver of a Chevy van who had earlier evaded a border checkpoint at Salma. However, an APB facilitated the identification of the car by the police patrol.

A rifle and 55 bullets were found with the driver in addition to bits of glass of liquor bottles. Consequently, securitymen followed the track of the car as the driver tried to drive away when he first observed the police and found 14 cartons of liquor and 11 bottles strewn along the tracks tracks.

Meanwhile, the same officers spotted a red Mazda parked in a suspicious manner half a kilometre away from the checkpoint and on investigation found ten cartons of liquor and 21 bottles of assorted alcohol.

The suspects and the contraband have been referred to the authorities for further investigation.

■ THE Criminal Court sentenced a man identified as Sunil to six months imprisonment for manufacturing alcohol at his residence.

The court was told that Sunil was holding function for a number of friends as he was leaving Kuwait permanently. Police who were informed, initially tried to purchase some alcohol, but were unsuccessful. Subsequently, they raided his residence and a quantity of alcohol and manufacturing equipment were seized.

■ THE Court of Higher Appeals overturned the judgement of the Criminal Court which had refrained from passing sentence on an accused arrested for forcibly entering and molesting a lady and sentenced him to three years imprisonment with hard labour.

The court was told that the accused one day prior to the incident had seen the lady identified as Huda with whom he had a love relationship five years ago and she invited him to his apartment during the absence of her husband.

However, when he arrived at the apartment, the lady refused to see him and he was forcibly entered and tried to kiss and fondle the lady. She reported the incident to the police.

suggesting that the government authorities should prepare a short term plan on administrative development projects during the period from 1.11.1989 up to 30.6.1990.

Follow-up

The official said that the Civil Service Commission had requested the government authorities to provide the CSC with

the necessary follow-up reports covering the period. The closing date for the first report was set as 15.3.1990 and for the other on 15.7.1990.

Meanwhile, the official thanked all the government authorities who showed cooperation with the administrative development sector which is represented by submitting its relevant reports on this

matter and urged the other authorities to forward their reports to the CSC as early as possible.

He disclosed that in the light of the relevant follow-up reports received from the governmental authorities, the Civil Service Commission, will conduct a comparative study in order to upgrade performance at the different governmental authorities.

Discounted fares to end, says AI official

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

A GROUP of five airlines, led by Kuwait Airways, are anxious to bring parity between market level fares and IATA fares. Air India's director for Gulf and Middle East M.P. Mascarenhas told a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel yesterday.

This means that the airlines are seriously working toward ending discounted fares, a practice begun in January this year under KAC's Yield Improvement Programme (YIP). The group has KAC, Air India, Saudi, Emirates and Gulf Air and will shortly include Syrian Arab Airlines. Air India signed a bilateral agreement with KAC last year.

"Ultimately, all airlines will fall in line and charge IATA level fares," said Mascarenhas. KAC, he said, was keen to improve yield and services and has been working toward eliminating disparity in fares.

The AI official said that the airline has seen a 10 per cent increase in the traffic flow between Kuwait and India. He expected a similar rise this year. There are eight AI flights to India but the airline is planning to have "some extra flights" to cope with the summer rush.

"I can tell you how many extra flights we will have but if the need arises, we'll have them," he said.

Mascarenhas said he held meetings with representatives of the Goan Welfare Society and the United Malayalee Organisation. The Goans submitted a memorandum asking for the introduction of family fare, review of baggage allowance and airline schedules.

AEUC withdrawal decision objective

Avoiding duplication major concern

KUWAIT'S withdrawal from the Arab League's Arab Economic Unity Council is not against any bloc nor is it against any Arab joint economic march, Assistant Undersecretary at Kuwait's Ministry of Finance, Mustafa Jassim Al Sharnawi was quoted as saying.

Sharnawi added that there are about 17 Arab specialised organisations and the total contributions which had not been honoured by the member states up to 1986 amounted to US\$132.5 million. However, he pointed out that Kuwait had always abided by its obligations towards these organisations, but, initially had laid down some criteria for fulfilling its obligations which were represented by ensuring that at least 60 per cent of the member states of the organisations should do the same.

Feasibility

The official further disclosed that Kuwait's Cabinet had formed a committee in 1986 for studying the feasibility of Kuwait's contribution to a number of Arab and international organisations.

He added that these efforts had resulted in setting up of the Arab Economic and Social Council which groups in its membership the Arab economies and finance ministers and is aimed at supervising Arab specialised organisations and setting up of any new Arab organisations — subject to the approval of the council.

Deliberations

Sharnawi went on to state that different changes prevailing in the Arab arena had entailed the review of the current Arab joint organisation and Kuwait had participated in these deliberations. He added that the committee in its recommendation had called for preventing the setting up of any new organisations in addition to forming a co-ordination committee among Arab organisations which undertakes to submit relevant reports about the achievements of these organisations to the Arab Economic and Social Council.

The official pointed out that the economic crisis which faced a number of Arab countries had resulted in these countries not being in a position to honour their obligations towards these organisations.

Replying to a question whether Kuwait would withdraw from other Arab organisations, the official said that

War damaged copters repaired: Iran

NICOSIA, April 3, (AP): Two US-built military helicopters damaged in the 1980-88 Gulf war have been repaired by Iranian technicians and successfully test flown, Iraq's state-run television network reported recently.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, showed the two navy RH-53E mine-sweeper helicopters take off, hover and land.

But the broadcast did not say whether the RH-53E's complex avionics and weapons systems were operational. A chronic shortage of spare parts for its US-made weapons systems rendered many of Iran's aircraft non-operational for combat during the war.

Defence Minister Akbar Torkan said in an

interview that more than 15,000 man-hours were spent rebuilding the helicopters, which he said were among "the most complex and biggest aircraft we have, and among the largest in the world."

He said that "Iran is one of the very few countries which has the capability to rebuild and overhaul this type of aircraft."

Since the August 1988 ceasefire in the war with Iraq, the Iranians claim to have rebuilt and overhauled a number of advanced aircraft, including F-14 Tomcat interceptors, Boeing 747s and C-130 transports, without foreign assistance, amid a major drive to build up a domestic arms industry.

France, Iran renew loan issue talks

PARIS, April 3, (Reuter): A top French official flew to Tehran yesterday to resume talks on a billion-dollar debt dispute, the Foreign Ministry said.

Francois Scheer, the highest ranking civil servant in France's Foreign Ministry, is due to meet Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Vaezi for a fourth round of talks between the two since last September.

At issue is a billion dollar loan extended by the late Shah of Iran in 1974 to help finance France's nuclear programme.

France has already repaid \$630 million, but is withholding the last tranche in a bid to win compensation for French firms which lost major contracts in the early days of the 1979 Islamic revolution which toppled the Shah.

The dispute over repayment has soured relations between the two countries for more than a decade.

Scheer and Vaezi last met in Paris in January.

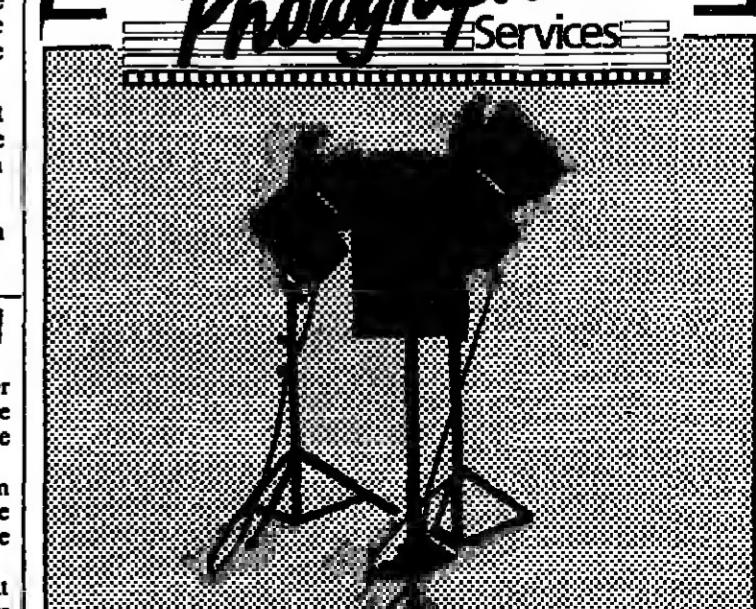
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Special training for handicapped

THE Ministry of Education has set up a joint committee to offer professional training to some categories of handicapped who are unable to comprehend or react with professional programmes at the special education schools.

The committee comprises experts from the Ministry of Education and the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training. The committee will study the cases of these handicapped pupils in these schools which are reported to be on the increase.

The committee is headed by the director of planning department at the Paediatric, Mansour Al Mishai and includes nine specialised teachers at the authority and the special education schools.

MIDEAST

Cairo trial

Death call for Khaled Nasser

CAIRO, April 3, (Agencies): A senior prosecutor renewed calls for the death sentence to be passed on eleven persons, including the eldest son of late Egyptian revolutionary leader Gamal Abdel Nasser, for leading a group which attacked Israeli and American targets, the semi-official daily Al Ahram reported yesterday.

Assistant attorney-general Ragaz El Arabi was quoted as pressing the state security court examining the case to pass death sentences against the eleven defendants, "for their crimes against unarmed innocent civilians."

El Arabi called for sentences of life imprisonment with hard labour to be passed on nine other defendants, who also belong to the banned, anti-government "Egypt revolution" group.

El Arabi said that Nasser's eldest son Khaled, the leader of the underground group, and ten other members should face the death penalty because they were the leaders of the "Egypt revolution gang."

"According to Egyptian law, all eleven leaders of this gang of no heroes must face the death penalty, and the other nine should serve life imprisonment with hard labour for the crimes they have committed against innocent unarmed civilians," El Arabi said.

Their crimes underminded

the country's national security, and were harmful to its national interests and to the interests of the Arab world," he said.

"They decided to attack Americans when they couldn't find Israelis easily," El Arabi said.

Egyptian security forces managed to smash the underground group, which wants to continue Nasser's Pan-Arab radical nationalism and socialism, three years ago after years of failure.

The group claimed responsibility for a series of attacks against Israel and US targets between June 1984 and May 1987, in which two Israelis were killed, and five Israelis and two Americans were injured.

Khaled and a nephew of the late president Nasser were tried in absentia after fleeing the country. Police believe they are in Yugoslavia.

Eighteen defendants still in Egypt have pleaded not guilty to charges of murder, causing actual bodily harm, being members of a banned group, subversion and terrorism.

President Hosni Mubarak has warned against undermining the country's unity and said that attempts to carry out such an act will be dealt with harshly.

This warning came during a cabinet meeting, under Mubarak's chairmanship, during which the ministers were shown a report by Interior Minister Maj. Gen. Abdel Halim Mousa on recent events at the governorate of Minya.

Jordan to recall embassy officials

AMMAN, April 3, (AP): Prime Minister Mudar Badran's government decided yesterday to recall 40 Jordanian non-diplomatic officials from embassies in Western countries to save money.

Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Mutawieh Bilbeisi said the move was designed to cut a projected budget deficit of \$299.5 million this year by \$5 million. Jordan has a foreign debt of \$8.3 billion.

Bilbeisi told the Associated Press that the recall action was effective immediately and the embassy officials should return to Jordan before the end of June.

He said the decision would not affect embassy staff working in Arab countries.

Bilbeisi said the recall covers 22 counsellors and four cultural, four labour, two press, one health and seven commercial attachés. He did not say which embassies would be affected.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Jerusalem panel to meet next Friday: The Organisation of Islamic Conference announced Monday that its Jerusalem committee will hold an emergency meeting Friday in Morocco to discuss the recent US Senate resolution recognising a unified Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

The meeting of the Al Qods (Jerusalem) Committee, will be attended by more than a dozen Islamic foreign ministers, said the statement from the OIC headquarters in Jeddah.

It will be held in Rabat under its chairman, King Hassan II of Morocco. (AP)

Postpone municipal elections call: Tunisian party leaders proposed Monday postponing municipal elections for up to six months to give themselves more time to agree on a new voting system.

The elections should take place before the end of May and the way they are run is seen as a test of the government's commitment to multiparty democracy.

But politicians from five of the seven recognised parties, including the ruling Democratic Constitutional Union (RCD), said they favoured putting them off until they approve details of a new voting system with elements of proportional representation. (Reuter)

Hashemi visit not hostage-related: The visit to Lebanon late in March by Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani's brother was not related to the issue of the 18 Western hostages held by underground Shiite Muslim factions, a statement said Monday.

Mahmoud Hashemi's visit to Lebanon was for "humanitarian purposes and not linked to the hostages" said a statement by Hussein Mousavi one of the Shiite Lebanese leaders who met Rafsanjani's brother in Lebanon.

The conservative newspaper Ad Diyar, based in Christian east Beirut, had reported that Hashemi met in the eastern Bekaa Valley last week with Mousavi and leaders of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah. (AP)

Eritrean rebels and Ethiopians meet: Four Eritrean rebel groups and Ethiopian officials met Monday for North Yemen-sponsored peace talks that officials hope will develop into an overall peace conference involving other factions to end Africa's longest war.

The meeting opened Sunday night at the Yemeni Foreign Ministry after the iftar with which Muslims break the day's fast in the holy month of Ramadan.

Both sides stressed their desire to end the guerrilla war with a lasting political settlement before going into closed session. (AP)

Bomb kills a pro-Israeli militiaman: A roadside bomb blast killed one pro-Israeli militiaman and wounded two others in southern Lebanon Monday, security sources said.

The source of the blast killed one south Lebanon army member and wounded two others near the village of Barashit, 9 miles (14 km) from the Israeli-Lebanon border.

Fighters of the "Lebanese Resistance Front" planted the explosive charge, the sources said.

The SLA-run "Voice of the South" radio station said an explosive charge went off under an SLA vehicle on the Barashit-Bell Yaloun road near the security enclave, killing one of its members and wounding two others. (AP)

Morocco makes passport getting easier: Morocco announced Monday new measures to make it easier for citizens to obtain passports.

Interior Minister Driss Basri told journalists restrictions would only apply to people due in court or likely to offend public morals and damage the reputation of the state.

Although all Moroccans have the right to travel freely, in the past only people earning a certain income or with overseas work contracts and return air tickets tended to get passports.

Basri said all applications would be answered within one month and all citizens refused could appeal. Verdicts on appeals would be given within a month. (Reuters)

US warns Afghan resistance over drug production and trafficking

ISLAMABAD, April 3, (UPI): The United States has warned Afghan resistance commanders it "cannot accept" a situation in which it is providing aid to the rebels while they are encouraging drug production and trafficking, a senior US official said yesterday.

Melvin Levitsky, US Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics Matters, also told a news conference that he found during talks with senior anti-narcotics officials in Islamabad that Pakistan has a "strong commitment" to stem the drug trade but it still faced a "wholerange" of problems.

"What we need to do is to be more effective in stemming drug abuse... more effective in law enforcement, more effective in interdiction, in going after major heroin labs and harassing these vicious criminal organisations," he said.

The US official said about 25 per cent of the heroin that reaches the United States comes from the so-called "golden crescent" area that includes Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran, while another 50 per cent is produced in Southeast Asia.

In Afghanistan, some rebel groups have allegedly been involved in the cultivation of opium and the production

and trafficking of heroin. Clashes have reportedly occurred in some areas between rival groups for control of the trade.

The United States provides arms to the rebels, known as mujahedeen in their 11-year-old war against the pro-Soviet government in Kabul.

"What we don't support and what we have made very clear to Mujahedeen commanders is that they must stay out of drugs and that they must discourage production of drugs," Levitsky said.

"We cannot accept a situation where we are giving assistance to the muja-

hedeens and they are encouraging drug production and drug trafficking."

He said the current communist government in Afghanistan is not "legally certified" as co-operation with the United States to control the drugs trade.

"So if now there is a new government in Afghanistan that expresses the self-determination of the Afghan people and was then recognized by the United States, the first issue we would encounter is — can we certify that government as co-operating fully with the United States according to our law?"

"The point we have made to the muja-

hedeens is that if there is considerable evidence that there is no co-operation but support for drug trafficking and drug production we would not be able to assist that government of Afghanistan," Levitsky said.

Her said that the Bush administration in the past year has concentrated its anti-narcotics efforts against the influx of cocaine, which is produced mostly in Latin America.

"We feel we are setting a handle on that," he said. But the official said experts feared the cocaine problem may now be followed by a heroin epidemic.

election code violates constitutional guarantees of equal opportunity — and they want voting districts to ensure proportional balance between numbers of voters and number of parliamentary seats. Then they want new elections.

An advisory panel of jurists attached to the seven-member constitutional court recommended in a non-binding opinion that the court uphold Khalid's objections to the election law. The seven-member tribunal, the ultimate arbiter of Egypt's basic law, is expected to rule by early June.

Egypt is under a constitutional 'dilemma'

CAIRO, April 3 (AP): The constitutionality of Egypt's Parliament is under fire in a court challenge that could lead to elections by this summer, two years before they're due.

The accompanying political row is typical of what Egyptians face in a continuing struggle to work out the kinks in a still-imperfect democratic system.

Egypt has come a long way from the single-party dominance that prevailed for more than two decades after Gamal Abdel Nasser overthrew King Farouk in 1952.

Nasser's successor, Anwar Sadat, re-

tored the multi-party system in the late 1970s, and allowed publication of newspapers proclaiming the opposition parties' message — though Sadat became impatient with their criticism and periodically cracked down.

Hosni Mubarak, who then came to the presidency, has since given government opponents wide-ranging freedom to criticize. They have made full use of it.

Scathing attacks in opposition newspapers frequently lead to shouting matches with state-owned publications. The two-way mud-slinging often spills over onto the parliamentary floor, where

there have been opposition walkouts — and even a few scuffles.

The government considers the parliamentary and media fights a safety valve, to have the opposition "let off steam," as one official put it.

But Egypt's politics remain dominated by a strong presidency which practically monopolizes foreign policy, while in domestic affairs, he keeps close tabs on the prime minister and his cabinet.

The administration's backbone is the National Democratic Party's 5-plus per cent majority in the 458-seat legislature, or People's Assembly. The party can

outvote the opposition anytime — though the opposition, with almost 100 seats, is the largest since republican Egypt began with Nasser's coup.

Khalid Khalid, 59, a lawyer registered as an independent, began the current political free-for-all with a suit in constitutional court, renewing an earlier challenge he had raised to an often-amended election law that dates from 1972, during the early Sadat years.

Khalid quickly found like-minded comrades within Egypt's five opposition parties.

They want the court to rule that the



Heavy smoke billows from the fuel tanks in battered east Beirut yesterday. Artillery men of Lebanese Forces militia shelled the tanks located in areas controlled by troops loyal to Gen. Aoun. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aoun urges new pact

British embassy suspends work

BEIRUT, April 3, (Reuters): General Michel Aoun, who rejected a 1989 Arab-brokered Lebanon peace plan, has urged Arab leaders to find a new pact that would satisfy all rival leaders.

Official sources said yesterday Aoun, commander of half of Lebanon's 35,000-man army, has written to the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Algeria and to the Arab League about the pact.

The three states sponsored last year's peace agreement by Lebanese deputies to end 15 years of war. The accord, reached in the Saudi city of Taif, entrenched powers between the long-dominant Christian Maronite community and the Muslim majority.

But it failed to include a clear timetable for a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, cited by Aoun as his main reason for rejecting it.

"I reiterate my government's readiness to fully cooperate with your committee's endeavours to achieve an understanding among the Lebanese parties and other sides concerned with solving the Lebanese crisis," said Aoun in the letters.

"I leave it to your good offices ... to choose the right frame, which could be Taif-2 or any other frame to achieve dialogue, the results of which would be comprehensive, just and practical," he said.

Aoun launched an unsuccessful six-month "war of liberation" last year with the intention of driving some 40,000 Syrian troops from Lebanon after rejecting the Taif peace pact.

The general, appointed in 1988 as head of a military interim government after parliament failed

to find a successor to former president Amin Gemayel, says he is Lebanon's only legitimate leader.

He challenged the authority of Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi who was elected in November last year as a result of the internationally-backed Taif agreement.

Meanwhile, rival Christian armies slug it out with artillery and rockets in snow-swept mountains northeast of Beirut on Monday as fires burned out of control in a deadlocked battle for control of the Christian enclave.

The snowfall blocked mountain roads and forced renegade Gen. Aoun's army troops and Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia to exchange artillery fire without launching ground offensives.

The Bush administration strongly believes that a solution of the Lebanese conflict must be dealt with "on its own merits" and must not be pegged on a solution of the Middle East problem.

The administration has also not changed its mind that Lebanese Christian leader Gen. Aoun has been "an obstacle to Lebanese unity, reconciliation and peace" and "his resistance has meant further tragedy for Lebanon."

Geagea also implicitly accepted an Arab-sponsored peace pact to end Lebanon's almost 15 years of civil war in an interview with the communist Voice of the People radio, saying it should open the way for a solution.

The general, appointed in 1988 as head of a military interim government after parliament failed

Time running out for Peres

Mood inside Labour gloomy

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 3, (Agencies): Labour leader Shimon Peres is nearing a deadline which could end both his hopes of becoming Israel's next prime minister and his control over his own party.

Two weeks of his three-week mandate to form a government have passed, yet Peres has failed to persuade any supporters of acting Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to change sides and break a 60-60 deadlock in the 120-seat Parliament.

"I am very pessimistic about his prospects of forming a government," said Gad Barzilai, of Tel Aviv University. "If he does not succeed he will not be (Labour) leader for long."

The mood inside the Labour Party is now reported to be gloomy, while members of Shamir's Likud bloc talk confidently of getting their turn to form the government.

"I think the chance still exists," Labour Party chairman Micha Harish told Army Radio yesterday about Peres' hopes of becoming prime minister and opening Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

But Harish focused mainly on the problems Shamir would have in forming a government and said Israel would have to face elections if Peres failed to become prime minister.

Peres created the present situation by first withdrawing his

Kahane faces sedition charges

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 3, (AP): US born Rabbi Meir Kahane went on trial in Jerusalem's district court yesterday on charges of sedition for calling Arabs a "cancer spreading in our midst" at a rally protesting a bloody attack on Israelis last year.

Defence lawyers called the trial a test case for freedom of speech in Israel, and Kahane has won unexpected support from civil libertarians who argue the sedition law is too broad and vague.

Kahane, head of the anti-Arab Kahane movement, said he didn't regret his July 7 speech. "I admit to the words, and I would say them again at another rally," Kahane told the Associated Press outside the courtroom.

Only about 20 Kahane followers and journalists attended the trial. Kahane, wearing a black suit and black skull cap, sat quietly during the four-hour hearing, occasionally shaking hands with supporters and browsing through his appointment calendar.

The sedition law has been criticized by civil rights advocates, including the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

An Israeli court yesterday sentenced a Yugoslavian immigrant to three years in jail for supplying classified information to the PLO, Israel radio said.

Chagall works in Israel

Occupied Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek returned from a weekend trip to Paris clutching five suitcases filled with 200 works of art by the late Marc Chagall.

The drawings, sketches and paintings by the Russian-born Jewish artist had been promised to the Israel museum by the artist's daughter, Ida, more than 20 years ago. (Reuters wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Energy file

Don't rely only on oil: Otaiba

ABU DHABI, April 3. (Opec): United Arab Emirates Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Mans Saeed Otaiba has called for his country to rationalise oil production so that reserves will last longer.

The minister's appeal is made in a 1,800-page book entitled "Oil and the UAE's Economy" published recently.

"We should utilise oil as the main financing of economic and social development in the UAE and other producers," he asserts.

"This should prompt us to enter all stages of petroleum industries and produce at levels which only meet demand so that we will live longer," he adds.

Otaiba maintains that a percentage of oil revenues, "say around 20 per cent" should be added to the state's financial reserves.

The minister stresses the importance of co-operation and integration among Arab and Gulf states to facilitate international and regional changes.

He also urges the creation of other sources of national income to avert the danger of reliance on oil.

The publication also covers essential and structural developments in the oil industry at local and international level.

"These developments triggered new changes in global oil relations, including co-operation between Opec and independent oil producers for the sake of stability of the market," he points out.

Otaiba declares that a boost in international ties coupled with an "improved global atmosphere" had made a positive impact on the oil sector.

■ An oil drilling company from the United Arab Emirates will explore for crude in South Yemen, according to its Director General Mohammad Bin Saleh.

He disclosed that his company, Bin Ham, which is based in Abu Dhabi had acquired the rights to explore for oil in an area covering 14,000 sq. km. in South Yemen's north San'a block.

■ Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul-Rahim Al-Chalabi left for Tokyo today for a four-day official visit to seek Japanese funds to boost Iraq's oil production capacity, the official Iraqi news agency (INA) reported.

It quoted Chalabi as saying he would have talks with officials and businessmen on Japanese investment in the expansion of Iraq's oil production capacity and other oil projects.

■ Egypt announced yesterday new crude-oil export prices reflecting two consecutive cuts totalling \$1.50 dollars a barrel for most grades since mid-March.

An Oil Ministry spokesman also disclosed the export price of a fifth blend, Ras Al-Bihar and Khalij Al Zeit, which he said is superior quality to the old, top-grade Gulf of Suez.

The price cuts were the fourth and fifth in a row this year.

■ Saudi Arabia has decided to reduce prices of liquified petroleum gas exported to Japan by 10.3 per cent for April, according to a Japanese newspaper.

The Nihon Keizai said the prices will thus be \$109.3 per tonne of propane gas and \$107.33 per tonne of butane gas.

■ Qatar is to invite tenders soon for the overhaul of the country's three offshore oilfields, in a bid to extend their working life by another 30 years, the "Gulf Times" newspaper has reported in Doha.

■ Ministers of mineral resources and oil in the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) will hold their first meeting in Amman later this month to discuss co-operation, the state-run news Agency Petra said yesterday.

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US 'getting serious' about energy future

Watkins calls for re-examination of strategy

WASHINGTON, April 3. (AP): Secretary of Energy James D. Watkins said yesterday the US government is "getting very serious" about conservation and the environment as it calls for re-examination of dozens of ideas for stabilising the nation's energy future.

Watkins released a 230-page interim report on a proposed energy strategy, listing possibilities that include strict conservation requirements and government-financed development of renewable

alternative fuels, such as solar power or hydroelectric power. Such steps would be contrary to policies of former president Ronald Reagan, who favoured leaving energy issues to the marketplace and advocated doing away with the energy department.

Watkins' "interim report: national energy strategy" signals Bush's determination to "get the best public dialogue going in the history of energy policy," said Deputy Secretary W. Henson Moore.

"We should utilise oil as the main financing of economic and social development in the UAE and other producers," he asserts.

"This should prompt us to enter all stages of petroleum industries and produce at levels which only meet demand so that we will live longer," he adds.

Otaiba maintains that a percentage of oil revenues, "say around 20 per cent" should be added to the state's financial reserves.

The minister stresses the importance of co-operation and integration among Arab and Gulf states to facilitate international and regional changes.

He also urges the creation of other sources of national income to avert the danger of reliance on oil.

The publication also covers essential and structural developments in the oil industry at local and international level.

"These developments triggered new changes in global oil relations, including co-operation between Opec and independent oil producers for the sake of stability of the market," he points out.

Otaiba declares that a boost in international ties coupled with an "improved global atmosphere" had made a positive impact on the oil sector.

■ An oil drilling company from the United Arab Emirates will explore for crude in South Yemen, according to its Director General Mohammad Bin Saleh.

He disclosed that his company, Bin Ham, which is based in Abu Dhabi had acquired the rights to explore for oil in an area covering 14,000 sq. km. in South Yemen's north San'a block.

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It quoted Chalabi as saying he would have talks with officials and businessmen on Japanese investment in the expansion of Iraq's oil production capacity and other oil projects.

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An Oil Ministry spokesman also disclosed the export price of a fifth blend, Ras Al-Bihar and Khalij Al Zeit, which he said is superior quality to the old, top-grade Gulf of Suez.

The price cuts were the fourth and fifth in a row this year.

■ Saudi Arabia has decided to reduce prices of liquified petroleum gas exported to Japan by 10.3 per cent for April, according to a Japanese newspaper.

The Nihon Keizai said the prices will thus be \$109.3 per tonne of propane gas and \$107.33 per tonne of butane gas.

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Japan, US in trade talks

WASHINGTON, April 3, (AP): Japanese negotiators, professing new willingness to compromise on US demands for economic reform, began pivotal talks yesterday aimed at reducing rising trade frictions between the two economic superpowers.

President George Bush, who received an early-morning call from Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, said he was optimistic that the latest round of discussions will produce results.

"I had a very fruitful conversation with the prime minister of Japan this morning and we will see. But I must say I am encouraged by recent progress," Bush told reporters in Atlanta, Georgia.

The administration last July launched the talks, known as the Structural Impediments Initiative, aimed at addressing traditional barriers in Japan that act against the sale of foreign products and services in Japan.

The discussions are intended to address economic obstacles in both countries that are seen as primary reasons for America's \$49-billion trade deficit with the Japanese, almost half of last year's total deficit.

Three earlier rounds of discussions had produced little progress, but then Bush and Kaifu met a hastily arranged summit a month ago in California. Kaifu at that time pledged to make economic reforms a top priority.

Competition

The administration has argued that the proposed changes to scrap exclusionary business practices and open Japan to more foreign competition would not only benefit Americans by lowering the trade deficit but would also benefit the Japanese, who currently pay some of the highest prices in the world for consumer goods.

Kaifu told Bush yesterday that he was dispatching two high-level emissaries, former Japanese ambassador Nobuo Matsunaga and Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, to Washington to express his personal commitment to resolving the dispute.

Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters that the Japanese were bringing a new set of proposals for discussion. He said the Japanese initiatives were being taken to fight off rising protectionist pressures and to benefit Japanese consumers.

Watanabe refused to discuss details of the Japanese package. However, there were published reports that Japanese negotiators will propose liberalizing Japanese law to make it easier for large retail stores likely to carry imported products to open in Japan.

US retailers face delays of up to 10 years because of the current law.

The Japanese negotiators also reportedly will set forth a package of increased penalties for violations of anti-monopoly laws and lay out plans for increased spending on public works projects, also a demand of US negotiators.

Watanabe said the Japanese actions were not being taken under threat of US retaliation. He said the Japanese side felt it was important to show they had made the "utmost effort" to resolve the disputes.

The Bush administration is reviewing barriers against US products with a congressional imposed deadline on April 30 to target countries with the most onerous barriers for intensive negotiations.

The Japanese government, which was targeted last year, hopes to avoid being singled out again, although members of Congress are already calling for Japan to be cited, regardless of the outcome of the current discussions.

Last year, the Japanese were targeted for alleged barriers against US-made supercomputers, satellites and wood products. In recent days, negotiators have reached agreements in principle to resolve the satellite and supercomputer issues and will meet again later this month in an effort to expand the Japanese market for sales of US lumber.

Washington is reporting progress in tough talks aimed at reforming Japan's economic structure, but economists say any changes that result are likely at first to benefit Japanese consumers more than American exporters.

"The only thing the structural impediments discussions will do is make Japan more competitive, so if you're not here on the ground floor, it will make it more difficult," said Paul Summerville, chief economist at Jardine Fleming (Securities) Ltd.

EEC proposes plan to help Gatt fight trade pirates

GENEVA, April 3, (AP): The European Economic Community yesterday submitted a detailed proposal to trade negotiators for new international rules to protect rights to intellectual property such as patents, copyright and trademarks.

The text, the most comprehensive tabled to date in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks, provides for the enforcement of the proposed regulations by national legislation, including compensation for victims of infringements.

New accords on intellectual property rights and 14 other sectors of world trade are due to be signed by Gatt's 96 members in

December at the end of a four-year round of negotiations.

While the so-called Uruguay round talks on areas such as agriculture and textiles are designed to liberalise global commerce, any agreement on intellectual property is likely to increase protection.

The United States, the 12-nation European bloc and Japan have pressed for more stringent rules within the forum of Gatt.

However, some developing countries led by India have argued that ready access to known-how is essential to their development and that it should not be controlled

through Gatt.

But Peter Carl Mogens, an EEC negotiator, argued that better protection of patents would encourage voluntary transfer of technology to the Third World by alleviating patent owners' fears about infringements of their rights.

Mogens said he was confident of support for the proposal from some developing countries. He said the provisions reflected recent or planned revisions to domestic law in Mexico and certain South Asian countries.

Thailand, the Philippines and Malaysia are among those who have increased protec-

tion to intellectual property as a result of threats of unilateral retaliation from the United States.

The EEC proposal would rule out any such unilateral action.

The draft, to be discussed by negotiators at Gatt's headquarters in Geneva, covers the main seven intellectual property areas: Copyright, trademarks, geographical indications, patents, semi-conductors, trade secrets and industrial designs.

It lays down minimum standards for the protection of copyright, including the rights of authors, performers and broadcast organisations. It fixes the term of protection

at 25-50 years.

It would set a 10-year protection period for trademarks and 20 years for patents.

Under the EEC proposal all Gatt member states would comply with existing provisions of two intellectual property conventions administered by world intellectual property organisation (Wipo) and with additional commitments set out in the com-

mittee next.

These new commitments included enforce-

ment procedures that would allow customs authorities to seize, forfeit and destroy goods that infringed protection rules, and imposition of fines or prison sentences on

trade pirates."

Disputes would be submitted to existing Gatt procedures for resolving differences between trading partners, and countries would undertake not to resort to unilateral reprisals against a suspected offending state.

Delegations sources said this provision would prevent such action as the punitive tariffs the United States imposed in 1988 on imports from Brazil in retaliation for what Washington said was misappropriation of US pharmaceutical patents.

At present there are few substantive international agreed rules to protect patents, Mogens said.



Stock dealers emerge from the Tokyo Stock Exchange for lunch time after the morning session on Tuesday. Tokyo share prices ended easier at mid-day after a morning tug-of-war between sellers and bargain hunters. The 225-share Nikkei index was down 77.19 points, or 0.28 percent, at 27,924.88. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Interest rates reduced: The Bank of France, taking advantage of a low inflation rate and the strength of the franc, reduced its key interest rate by one quarter of a percentage point Monday to 9.75 per cent from 10 per cent.

The Central Bank said in a statement that the decision to lower the key interest rate had been motivated "by the improvement registered by prices during the past few months and the good standing of the franc in the exchange markets."

The French franc has strengthened in recent weeks against major foreign currencies, with the rate against the Deutschmark dropping to 3.3612 francs per mark Monday from 3.4100 marks in January. (UPI)

'Japanese make better cars': The Japanese make better cars, the chairman of Ford Motor Co. says.

"If you look at the Japanese, I think we're equal to some and not as good as the best," Harold Poling told the Detroit News in a story published Sunday. "Our objective is to get there."

Poling said operational costs, not technology, put the big three automakers at a disadvantage.

"Can we get plants in the United States to produce vehicles as inexpensively as the Japanese do? You bet," he said. "But that requires shutting down our plants and starting from scratch. We can't do that." (AP)

Salomon brothers in E. Berlin: Salomon Brothers, the international investment bank, announced Monday it plans to open a representative office in East Berlin.

The office will be staffed by German professionals from Salomon Brothers' West German subsidiary, Salomon Brothers AG, Frankfurt, the announcement said.

The bank said a presence in East Berlin would enable it to serve German and international clients who have an interest in doing business in East Germany.

The move became possible after the East German government opened the Berlin Wall last fall, and the East German elections in March paved the way toward a market-oriented economy. (Kuna)

Regional headquarters: More than half Hong Kong's multinational corporations are considering shifting their regional headquarters from the troubled British colony, and Singapore heads the list of alternatives according to a survey released Monday.

Some 62 per cent of the 50 firms polled by Business International said they would decide whether to relocate within two or three years. More than 32 per cent said chronic staff shortages and turnovers were major operating problems and would affect their decision.

The state news agency BTA said Bulgarians travelling abroad will have to pay up to four times more for US dollars or other convertible currencies, though it gave no details about the exchange rate of other Western currencies. (AP)

New East German bank opens: A new East German bank opened for business on Monday, aiming to support enterprise in the country's fledgling democracy after 40 years of communist rule.

Deutsche Kreditbank AG, with some 9,000 employees and branches across East Germany, is a key part of plans by the East German authorities to help make the transition to a market economy by encouraging business long smothered by state.

Bank board chairman Edgar Most told the official ADN news agency that the first figures on new accounts opened, loans made and the bank funds would be published later this month. (Reuters)

Nissan in Europe: Nissan Motor Co. said Tuesday its subsidiaries responsible for co-ordinating the company's overall activities in North America and Europe have started operations.

The Tokyo-based company said Nissan Europe NV in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, will co-ordinate vehicle and forklift production, marketing and distribution and other activities by its subsidiaries located in Europe.

The company said Nissan Europe, established in April last year, will initially be responsible for co-ordinating sales activities in the European market. It will gradually be integrated into the centre for managing product development, manufacturing and sales, the company said. (UPI)

'Invisible workforce': Women are the world's invisible workforce, the United Nations' International Labour Organisation said in a report published on Monday.

Millions of working women are simply ignored in labour statistics, giving a distorted view of reality and leading to misguided economic policies or even the neglect of women in development strategies, the report said.

The legions of "invisible" women can be found everywhere from Third World agriculture to family businesses in industrial nations such as Britain and France, it added. (Reuters)

Polish unemployment soars: The number of Poles without work climbed to more than a quarter of a million in March from less than 10,000 at the start of the year, official figures released on Monday showed.

A Labour Ministry spokesman said 266,572 people were registered as jobless on March 30, up from 132,190 at the end of February.

Unemployment, theoretically non-existent under the previous communist administration which collapsed last year, has shot up from 9,600 since Jan 1 when the new Solidarity-led government introduced tough austerity measures to curb hyperinflation and create a market economy. (Reuters)

Bulgaria devalues currency: The embattled communist government sharply devalued the Bulgarian leva against the US dollar on Monday, the state news agency said, bringing it in line with black market rates.

The BTA news agency also said the Communist Party newspaper has changed its name, and informed sources said communists plan to rename their party Tuesday in an apparent effort to distance themselves from their hardline past.

The state news agency BTA said Bulgarians travelling abroad will have to pay up to four times more for US dollars or other convertible currencies, though it gave no details about the exchange rate of other Western currencies. (AP)

Marubeni obtains stake: Major Japanese trading firm Marubeni Corp. reported it has acquired 21.3 per cent equity in ICM Farm Products Pty Ltd of Melbourne, Australia, for 7.75 million Australian dollars.

The company said the acquisition is aimed at strengthening ties with the Australian firm from which the company has been importing high-grade beef since 1985.

ICM Farm Products is the beef production division of the Australian Farm Products Business Group, ICM Australia, the company said.

The company said it will expand imports of grain-fed, high-grade beef from the Australian partner. (UPI)

Japan, US in trade talks

Tokyo stocks bounce back

Dollar drops against Japanese yen

TOKYO, April 3, (AP): Prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange rose sharply today in nervous, roller-coaster trading, as the US dollar dropped against the Japanese yen.

The 225-share Nikkei stock average gained a hefty 757.65 points, or 2.7 percent, ending the day at 28,757.65. In morning trading, the index first rose more than 500 points, then fell below the 28,000-point line.

The index rose again in the afternoon as participants decided that

market had bottomed out in the morning, said Yoshiro Inoue, managing director with Nomura Securities Co.

He said market players expect the index will stay above the 27,000-point level: 30 per cent below where it stood at the end of last year.

Inoue said another encouraging sign was the stability of government bond prices, which remained relatively steady despite yesterday's losses in the stock market.

BOJ sees no reason for yen's weakness

TOKYO, April 3, (UPI): Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno told parliament today he sees no reason for the yen's weakness and the Central Bank will try to bolster it in co-operation with other monetary powers.

"I see no reason for the yen's weakness. Non-economic factors are responsible for the yen's slide and the Central Bank will try to stabilise its value in co-operation with other countries," Mieno told a lower house committee.

Mieno expressed concern over inflationary pressure at home and the Central Bank is closely watching effects of the latest discount rate hike on price movements.

The Central Bank raised the key interest rate by 1.0 point to 5.25 per cent March 20. It was the fourth discount rate hike since early last year.

Mieno said political conditions at home and abroad also contributed to the yen's weakness. He cited concern over inflation in West Germany in connection with German reunification as another adverse factor.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told a news committee Japan has no plan to set a particular zone for the yen's price against other currencies.

"Such target zones would induce speculative moves rather than help stabilise the yen's value," Mieno said.

He said exchange rates were affected by speculative factors although they should be decided by fundamental economic strength in each nation.

"We should refrain from excessive intervention," he said. "But we will make efforts to give market players psychological stability."

Hashimoto told reporters the forthcoming meeting of the group of seven Western industrialised nations in Paris on Saturday is not intended to discuss ways to support Japan's faltering financial markets.

Hashimoto will represent Japan at the Paris meeting.

Muscle-flexing intervention in currency markets by the Bank of Japan (BOJ) is no longer effective in propping up the staggering yen, analysts say.

"They seem to have come to a dead end as far as intervention goes," said Hiroaki Shinkawa, a manager at Sanrizuka bank. "And they must know it."

The Central Bank spent a record 1,107 trillion yen (\$7.2 billion) in March to defend the yen in currency markets, the Ministry of Finance said in a monthly report released on Monday.

But traders said this huge intervention had only slowed the yen's slide.

Based on an average yen/dollar rate of 153.19 yen in March, the bank spent the equivalent of \$7.6 billion in defence of the Japanese currency, the figure shows.

"There was a more intense effort at the beginning of the month when they were desperately trying to hold the yen at 150 yen to the dollar," said Yoshiro Okabe, senior manager at Midland Bank. "They seemed ready to give up by month-end."

First Airbus A320 delivered to Amman

THE first of six Airbus A320s ordered by Royal Jordanian had been delivered to Amman, according to the Airbus News. The airline also holds four options for the type.

"The Airbus A320 is the most advanced and efficient aircraft available in its category for the modernisation of our fleet," says Royal Jordanian Chairman of the Board, Hassan Abu Khalidoun.

"And will provide us with the passenger capacity that we need at the best operating economy."

Royal Jordanian plans to use the A320s to expand its operations on its Middle East and Gulf

regional network as well as to diversify its routes to Europe.

The aircraft, powered by CFM International CFM56-5 engine seats 144 passengers in a two-class layout (twelve in first and 132 in economy).

"Royal Jordanian consolidates its position as one of the major Airbus Industrie customers in this part of the world," says Airbus Industrie Managing Director Jean Pierson, "and we are extremely proud that one of the leading airlines with a justified reputation for excellence, becomes the first A320 operator in the Middle East."

EVENTS



Kuwait's fourth annual raft race

Under the patronage of the Capital Governor Sheikh Jaber Al Abdulllah Al Jaber Al Sabah, Messilah Beach Hotel will hold its annual raft race for the 4th consecutive year on Friday May 11, 1990.

The event is sponsored for the second running year by the Kuwaiti Danish Dairy Company K.D.D. and promoted by Winston Cigarettes and Jashanmal & Partners Ltd.

Rival teams are busy preparing rats and planning tactics for the different category of races including:

1. Welded Category — Governor's Trophy a) Men's b) Ladies' c) Mixed;
2. Wood & Rope Category — Messilah Beach Hotel trophy a) MBH b)
Best Constructed c) Plate Competition: 3. Carnival Category a) Win-
ston Best Constructed Trophy b) Jashanmal Best Dressed Crew
Trophy c) Best Carnival Overall

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Bits 'n' Pieces
An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.

SOCIAL

Hyderabad
The Committee for Celebrations of 400-year Anniversary of Hyderabad (DECCEN) invites essays in either Urdu, Telugu or English languages in not less than 1000 words on one of the following topics: 1. Quil Qutub Shah — the Architect of Hyderabad; 2. Contribution of Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan towards modern Hyderabad; 3. Hyderabad City as I saw her (for school students only).

The competition is open to all present and former Hyderabadi and their children residing in Kuwait.

A panel of judges will judge the first, second and third prize winning entries, and the prizes and citations will be distributed before the audience at 400-year anniversary celebrations to be held sometime in May 1990.

All entries must be neatly written or typed on A4 size paper in double space, and reach the committee on or before April 30, 1990 and addressed to the Convenor Literary Committee, PO Box 23343, Safat, 13094, Kuwait. No entry fee is charged.

Ladies International League
LIL'Summer Bazaar is now being held at the Kuwaiti Regency Palace Hotel in the exhibition hall on Friday, May 11 from 10 am to 6 pm. All inquiries contact Cecilia on 3434946 or Barbara on 5325131.

PAC's Silver Jubilee

THE organising committee of the Pakistan Arts Circle will celebrate PAC's Silver Jubilee on Thursday, the 27th April, 1990 at 9 pm. The programme will include variety of programme and "Sham-e-Gazal." Our earlier artist will present his wonderful performance, and is being invited from Pakistan.

Reservations are open to all families. All are kindly requested to book their seats well before 15th April, 1990. For more information contact 4716258.

Summer Affair '90

THE Weekend Club will host their traditional "Summer Affair" on the first day of Eid Al Fit (April 26) at the Regency Palace Hotel. Watch or participate in the selection and crowning of the 1990 Summer Queen, join in a Jive Contest, watch a scintillating display of "Lambada" or simply let your feet loose to the music of Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers. Gala buffet, loads of prizes and most important have a good time. For reservations call 4315425 (Julio), 5741380 or 4890566.

Saligocars

CALLING all Saligocars... to respond to the call for a social gathering on May 25 at Ramada Al Salam, at 11.30 am. For details contact the following: Justin Fernandes on Tel. No. 2406936 (Res), Alo Carvalho, 2411442 (Res), 246121, Americo Remedios, Res. 3983348 and Paul DCruz; Res. 2444729, Tony Cordeiro off, 2415401, Res. 2412337.

Quran Khawani

A meeting was held at the residence of Nazir Dogar under the Chairmanship of Dr Riaz Ahmed Mahesar, president of Pakistan People's Club, regarding the observance of 11 death anniversary of former prime minister and chairman Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on April 4.

The meeting was attended by all central executive committee members. It was decided to hold Quran Khawani at the residence of Haji Qamar at 4 pm on April 4 1990. All members are invited.

Summer Affair '90

MAY 10-11: Expatriates Club proudly announces that Goa's celebrated king of centenary shows Rose Ferns, and his sixteen member troupe, will present at the Granada Cinema hall, Khetian, his premier release in Kuwait "Xinx" (Broken Glass) and "Beiman Tun" (You Ungrateful) which has already crossed the hundred plus mark in Goa. More details later.

Holy Week 1990

Holy Family Cathedral — Palm and Passion Sunday: 8th April — 7.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 3.25 pm, Holy Mass (Konkani); 4.30 pm, Holy Mass (Kannan); 5.45 pm, Holy Mass (English); 7.55 pm, Holy Mass (English).

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of the Holy Week: 9th, 10th, 11th April — 7.15 am, Holy Mass (English), 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm Confession; 6.30 pm, Holy Mass (English); 7.00, Holy Mass & Retreat (Malayalam — in big hall).

Maundy Thursday: 12th April — 7.00 am, Concelebrated Mass of Chrism (English); 4.00 pm, Holy Mass (Konkani); 5.30 pm, Solemn Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper (English); 9.00 pm, Adoration (English — in the big hall).

Good Friday: 13th April (Day of fast and abstinence) — 7.00 am, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Malayalam); 9.00 am, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English); 2.30 pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Konkani); 4.00 pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English); 5.30 pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English).

Holy Saturday: 14th April — 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm Confessions; 8.00 pm, Easter Vigil Mass (English).

Easter Sunday: 15th April — 7.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 9.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 10.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 11.00 am, Holy Mass (French in big hall); 12.00 noon, Holy Mass (English); 4.00 pm, Holy Mass (Konkani); 5.00 pm, Holy Mass (English); 6.00 pm, Holy Mass (English); 7.00 pm, Holy Mass (Malayalam in big hall).

Indian Cuisine Centre

Indian art of fancied lac bangles and design henna work comes alive at the finest Indian cuisine centre of Kuwait at the Maharaja Palace Restaurant. Come savour the delicacies whilst giving your lady a gift to cherish. For more information contact 2406150

British Council

The British Council working hours during the Holy month of Ramadhan: General office — Saturday to Wednesday — 7.30 to 14.00; Library — Saturday to Wednesday — 9.00 to 12.30, 16.00 to 19.00; Thursday: 9.00 to 1.20.

Approb Essay Competition

ASSOCIATION of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is holding an essay competition on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Pakistan Resolution.

Pakistani students in the age group of between 12-14 (juniors) and 15-18 (seniors) are invited to write their essays on the topic "My role in building a better Pakistan." The essays between 1000 and 1500 words, in Urdu or English, should be sent by 15th of April.

Four prizes of KD100 each (2 each for Urdu and English) will be awarded to the best articles in each group with other consolation prizes for deserving participants.

The panel of judges is headed by Dr M.I. Suleem, Dr Ali Jaffrey and Abdus Sattar Ghazali. For further details, contact: Tel. Approb, 3425315. Fax: 5323751.

Daniella Dhow Trip

Daniella invites all Danes to go on a dhow trip on Friday, May 4. For registration please call Jytte on Tel: 2449610 before April 22.

CINEMA

Al Andulus
Street Justice
Al Salmiyah
Malone
Al Hamra
Hell on the Battle Ground
Drive-in
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Nigahen
Fahsheel Open
Jyoti Bu...Jwala
Fahsheel
Arabic film
Al Jabra
Red Scorpion
Granada
Arabic film
Salsibikh
Raiders of Paradise
Jleeb
Feds
Ahmadi Drive-in
Arabic film

PRAYERS

Imsak	4.04
Fajr	4.14
Zuhra	11.51
Asr	3.23
Maghreb	6.09
Isha	7.26

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Nutty, eccentric, bizarre

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

"I've come to claim my wife," says Deepak to mother-in-law Rohini Hattangady. "What rubbish! You are not Jyoti's husband," she replies. Apparently, Deepak-Jyoti were married in childhood! And the mother-in-law is lying about Jyoti's marriage because Deepak belongs to the poor class — the divide between the rich and the poor in director Harnesh Malhotra's *Amiri Gharib*.

Rishi Kapoor and Neelam play Jyoti-Deepak.

Why is Malhotra propagating the idea of child marriage in the 21st century? Isn't child marriage outlawed? At least that's what we thought, until this film came along.

The child marriage syndrome is a mere subplot in the movie, that actually deals with the spoilt wife and children of an industrialist. To save his inheritance son Raj Babbar agrees to marry a girl of his father's choice. While Poomam Dhillion languishes in her palatial home, Babbar visits the "kutewali" Sona (dancing girl) played by Rekha. Sona has her heart set on the local hoodlum Heera (Jeetendra). By a contrived coincidence, Poomam happens to be Jeetendra's sister.

The patchwork quilt takes shape in the village, in the city and in the slums — finally ending in redemption in the fields of, maybe, Rajasthan. Values are skin deep; situations superficial and the characters theatrical; mixed with a dash of song, dance, melodrama and rhetoric we have *Amiri Gharib*, a futile exercise.

Atishbaz
Writer K.K. Shukla's story opens in Lahore

prison. I don't know why the prison is in Lahore. Shukla tells us that this is because it is pre-independent India — and the country will be divided. And Shera, along with his entire family, lands in Bombay. The big divide in Atishbaz is between sanity and insanity. Nutty, eccentric characters and bizarre situations leave behind a blazing trail of dead bodies.

Imagine this situation: a dozen armed men carrying machine-guns firing away at one, defenceless man, who walks away with only a scrape on his shoulder. Such super-human traits abound in Shera's character, tailor-made for Shogun, oh, sorry Shatrughan Sinha. His bloodshot eyes and his stately, exaggerated performance as the hardened criminal increases the trauma of Atishbaz. To add fuel to fire, the undying friendship of Shera and "Jaan" Vijay (Aditya Pancholi) makes you sic! Vijay, after three-fourths of the film decides to reform. It seems that filmmakers have hit upon the idea of reforming criminals — recruit them as police officers.

Police officer Vijay is attacked by Shera's enemy, Tiger (Kiran Kumar) suffering several bullet wounds. Incredibly, in the next frame, Vijay is up and about — fighting off an attack on Shera, who heroically lays down his life to save "Jaan," nnit that mattered.

The romantic interest comes in the form of Ania Raj, who changes from an innocent last to a gangster's moll — all due to the trauma of partition, only to be reclaimed as property of Shera.

Forget Atishbaz. It's nothing but trouble. The above movies are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St. Farwaniya, Tel: 4712900 and Canary Video, Fisheries Bldg, Sharq.

Danella Bowling

ALL Danes are invited to participate in the first ever Danella Bowling Tournament on April 5, 1990, at 6 pm. For further information and registration please contact Connie - Tel: 3715637 or Marianna - Tel: 3720137 before March 26.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

1.00 The Opening and Holy Quran
1.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)

1.30 World animals: Cultural programme

2.00 Kabool adventures: Cartoon serial

2.30 Maa Al Sabreen: Historical serial (Part 9)

3.10 Human health: Cultural programme (Part 9)

3.35 Qahadhy Bahlool: Arabic serial (Part 9)

4.20 Rasael Al Ekhla: Local programme

4.40 Rafat Al Hajan: Arabic serial (Part 9)

5.30 Hadeeth Deen: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Metwally Al Sharawi

6.20 Baada Al Iftar: Religious feature

6.45 Mazenger Journey: Cartoon serial (Part 9)

7.00 Maddeen Al Ajayeb: Local children serial (Part 9)

7.45 Night chemists: airlines and official advertisements

8.00 Maa Al Talab: Local programme prepared by the Ministry of Education School Activities Department

9.00 Johayana: Cultural programme (Part 9)

9.45 Science Edition: The Canadian space programme for training aeronauts and launching spacecrafts to outer space... Importance of grass for play grounds.. Artificial grass industry.. Burns from sunbathing.. Skin cancer...

KTV 2

8.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
8.10 Mickey and Donald: A cartoon series for children

8.30 Animals of Africa "Suricates": It looks like weasels or castors ... it lives in groups and digs its hiding hole near stems of trees.

9.00 News in English

9.30 Welcome Ramadan: A religious programme on the occasion of Holy Ramadan

9.45 Science Edition: The Canadian space programme for training aeronauts and launching spacecrafts to outer space... Importance of grass for play grounds.. Artificial grass industry.. Burns from sunbathing.. Skin cancer...

10.15 Bonker: "The Pump": Three criminals attack a police-woman, Booker's girl-friend.

11.30 Cine Club: Presented by Farouk Abdulaziz. Murder by Death. Starring: Peter Falk, Alec Guinness, Peter Sellers. Several detectives are invited to stay at the home of a wealthy recluse ... murder follows...

1.30 News in brief

1.45 Magazine D'Actualite

Kala honours cultural figures

THE Kerala Art Lovers Association, "Kala", held a commemorative tribute to the late Prof. Thayuthayi Sankaran, a prominent and progressive Keralee literary and cultural figure during the occasion of his fifth death anniversary recently.

The meeting was presided over by V.B. Jamal, the president of "Kala" and it began with a welcome speech made by Sam Pyunumooddy, the literary secretary.

Vakkom Sharma, Renuka Bhaskaran, Pushpa Narayanan and P.M. Sudhakaran madespeeches by reviewing the literary and cultural creations of the well known critic and writer Prof. Thayattu.

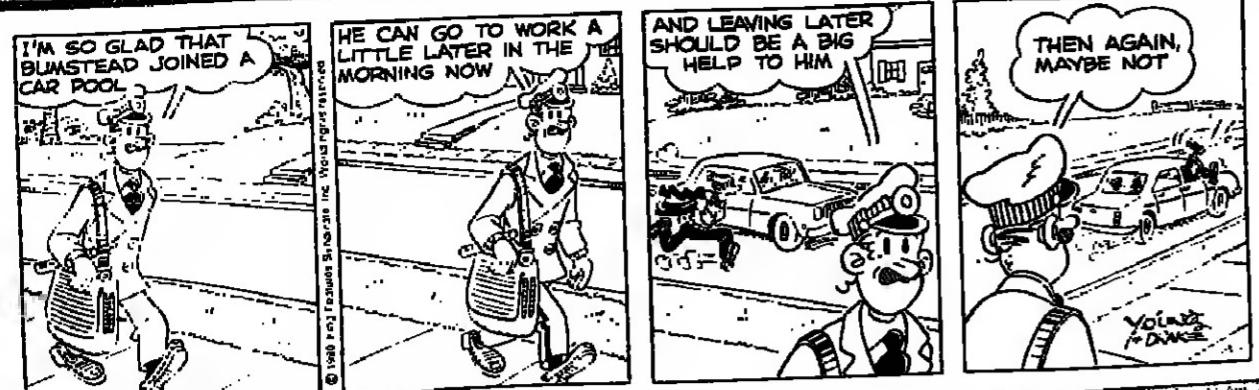
A recitation of poetries done by N.V.K. Warrier, Dr. Nanthalumar Moorkath, Varkey Mathew Eraviperoor, Sainu Pallithazham, L. Chandran Pillai, Badal Malabar and Mohan Vadanan.

Kala has by far established itself as an apolo of artistic and cultural activities in Kuwait. Now to crown all of its past achievements Kala has earned another feather to its cap.

Rajan Kilimanoor, the art secretary addressed the art lovers and T.K. Narayanan, the general secretary paid a vote of thanks.

LEISURE

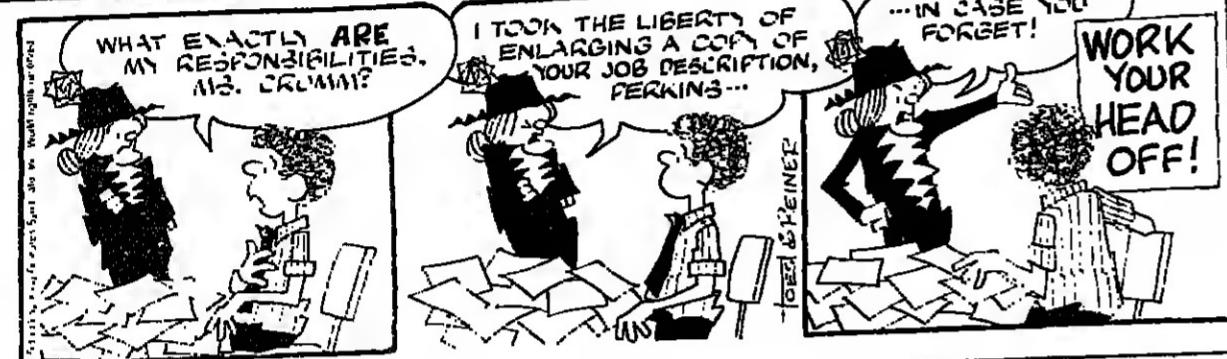
BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



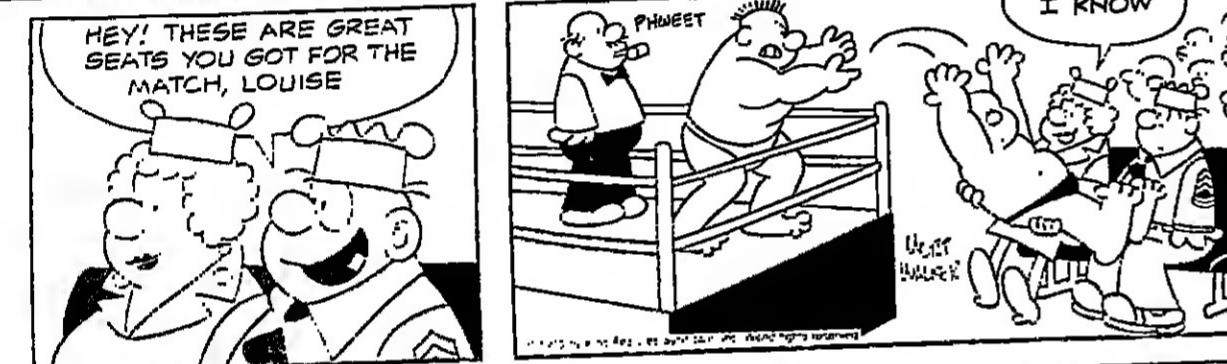
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



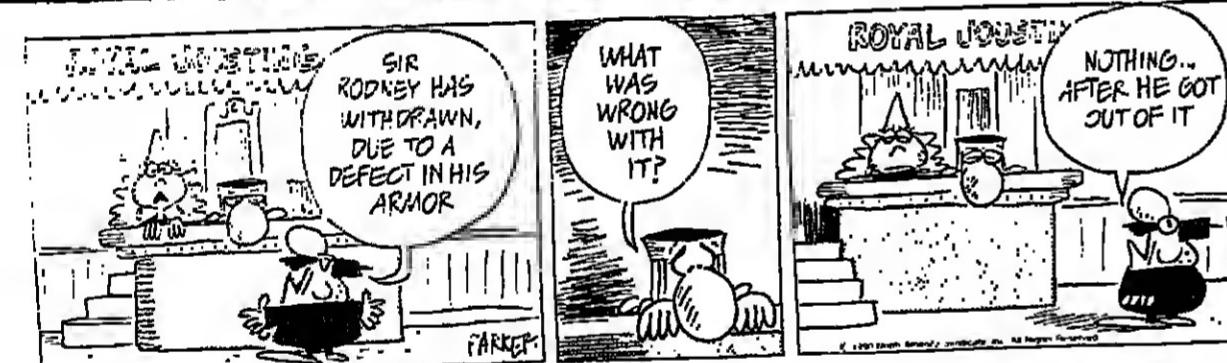
AGATHA CRUMM — By Bill Hoest



BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



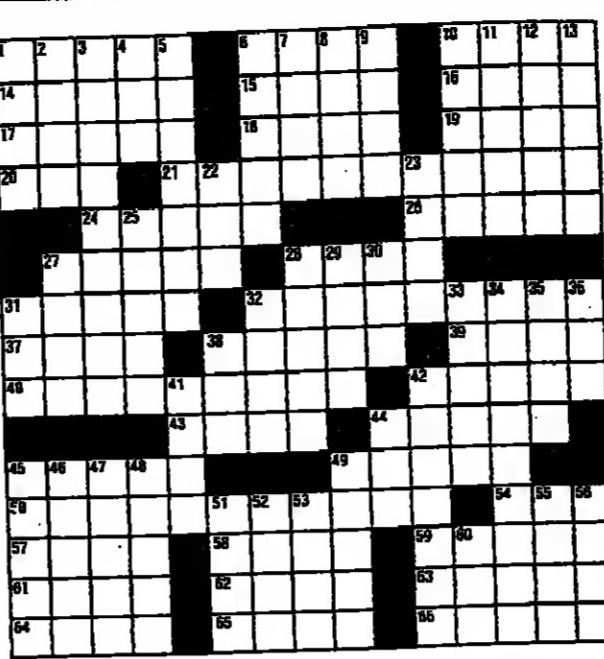
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND ODESSA SHARPE
FROM VIENNA, GOOD TECHNIQUE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ Q 3 2

♥ A 10

♦ A J 9 7 4

♦ A 9 6

WEST

♦ 9 6 4

♥ K 9 5 4 2

♦ 10

♣ Q 8 7 2

EAST

♦ 10 8 5

♥ J 7 6 3

♦ Q 6 3 2

♣ J 10

SOUTH

♦ A K J 7

♥ Q 8

♦ K 8 5

♣ K 5 4 3

The bidding:

South

West

North

East

1 NT

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

6 ♦

Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♡

Dear Tannah:

I have for years held Christian Mari in great esteem, both as a player and as a person. He played this hand in the France-Sweden match at the recent World Team Championships.

Mari's jump to three clubs was a transfer to three diamonds and four no trump was a natural invitation to slam. South judged his prime control and ruffing value justified acceptance of the try and he chose to play in the suit in case a heart ruff.

Mari won the spade lead in hand and was dismayed at the duplication in hearts. Since 12 tricks were there if the trump suit could be brought in without loss, declarer cashed the king and learned the bad news when West showed out on the second diamond. Dummy's jack was played and East shifted to the jack of clubs after taking the queen of diamonds. To preserve dummy's entry, declarer won in hand. Two more rounds of trumps extracted the enemy's fangs and declarer paused to review the situation.

To make the rest of the tricks he needed to find one of the defenders with at least four clubs and the king of hearts. If it were West, declarer could simply cash the last diamond and three spades, and discard from dummy whichever suit West retained.

But if East held the key cards, dummy would have to discard first. For the squeeze to operate on either defender, declarer cashed the ace of hearts—a Vienna Coup. Now when the winners were cashed dummy could come down to two clubs and whoever initially held four clubs and the king of hearts would have to concede. Voila!

As ever—
Omar

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

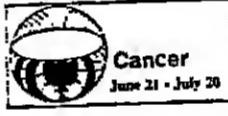
LETIT	A	O	U	P	P	I	L	A	T
ACHE	D	O	U	S	E	R	I	B	ILE
SHOR	T	O	R	D	E	R	A	L	IAN
HORROR	E	S	S	A	J	I	L	S	TI
IRES	E	W	E	V	E	W	E	E	W
AIRLOFT	P	E	T	A	R	G	U	E	G
SARI	S	E	N	I	R	A	N	T	C
CHICKENS	N	S	E	N	D	W	I	W	H
OOTO	E	N	O	U	R	E	A	L	I
TINGE	S	E	A	F	R	Y	E	R	I
APES	S	H	A	W					
ENLISTEE	O	R	A	N					
GODIN	H	A	M	B					
ANNIE	I	R	M	A					
DIETER	C	L	A	R					
CLARE	N	O	T	E					

These are my two references; neither of them can write."

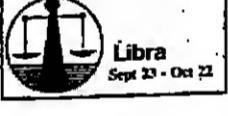
YOUR STARS

Aries
March 21 - April 19

There is no time to lose now, you should concentrate on dealing with essentials. You should however, not be in such a hurry that you miss important details. Show a little more consideration. Be sincere.

Cancer
June 21 - July 22

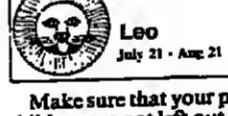
Give others the benefit of any doubt. You will tend to indulge in daydreams and should try to retrain yourself. You would be wrong to say one thing and then do something quite inconsistent with it. Be tolerant.

Libra
Sept 23 - Oct 22

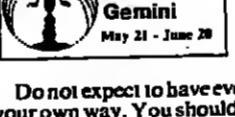
Allow others to express their opinions and take them into your account in your thinking. Now is a good time to take the initiative. An inclination to be extravagant will have to be curbed. Be realistic.

Taurus
April 21 - May 20

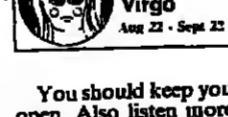
You have no good reason to lose faith in yourself. However, there is no good reason for an excess of confidence either. You should keep your eyes and ears open and should make a special effort to avoid doing so. Once you have made up your mind stick to it. Be generous.

Leo
July 23 - Aug 22

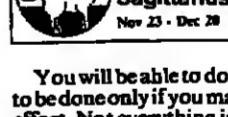
Make sure that your partner and children are not left out of account in your financial calculations. You are more liable to make mistakes and should make a special effort to avoid doing so. Once you have made up your mind stick to it. Be generous.

Gemini
May 21 - June 20

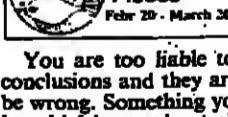
Do not expect to have everything your own way. You should not just hope for the best, if you do the worst could happen. Make sure you do not eat too many sweet things and drink only moderately. Be cordial.

Virgo
Aug 23 - Sept 22

You should keep your eyes wide open. Also listen more closely to what others are saying. Use all the common sense you can sum up and show a little more goodwill as well as making allowances. Be fair.

Sagittarius
Nov 23 - Dec 22

You will be able to do what needs to be done only if you make an extra effort. Not everything is as it seems to be so do look beneath the surface. Make sure you do not spend more than you can readily afford. Be attentive.

Pisces
Feb 19 - March 20

You are too liable to jump to conclusions and they are likely to be wrong. Something you did not have high hopes about will turn out much better than expected. Take a little more care about your appearance and personal hygiene. Be practical.

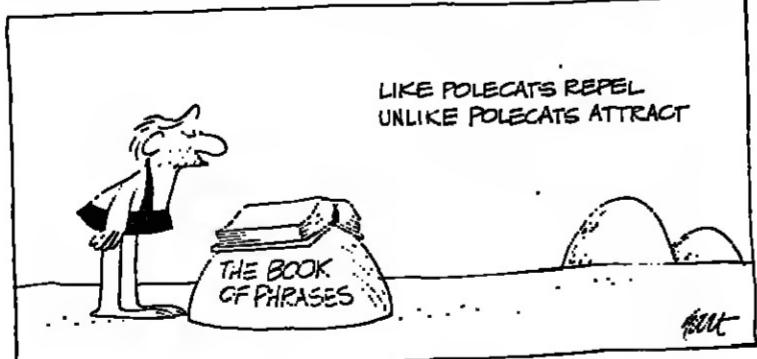


"If you'll allow me, sir, I'd recommend the cheese salad and a very substantial tip."



"As a matter of fact, I went to all this trouble just to say 'I don't.'"

ANIMAL MAGNETISM



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



Crime

Poverty, racism drive immigrants to crime

Swedes lose patience with foreigners

STOCKHOLM. (Reuter): Poverty and racial prejudice in Sweden may be pushing immigrants towards crime.

For some who arrive on Swedish shores, the hope of joining a wealthy, liberal society fades into a feeling of rejection.

Authorities say this sense of alienation, coupled with poorer living conditions and higher unemployment, could be why the newcomers commit twice as many crimes per head as native Swedes.

Immigrants make up only five per cent of Sweden's 8.47 million population, but account for 10 per cent of crime, according to official figures. Foreigners waiting for residence permits and visitors from abroad are responsible for another five per cent.

Analysis of the crime figures has sparked a sometimes strident debate over the influx of refugees seeking asylum and eventual residence, many of them from the

Middle East.

Jerzy Sarnecki, a criminologist at the Swedish Crime Prevention Council, said the figures published by Statistics Sweden, the official statistics bureau, were broadly in line with his own observations.

"Against the background of findings in the United States and Australia, I think the cause may lie in the relationship between foreigners and Swedes," Sarnecki told Reuters.

"The existence of racism and prejudice against certain groups prevents them feeling any solidarity with the society. I think we need stronger legislation against racism," he added.

Sweden's ombudsman for discrimination, Peter Nobel, said immigrants were no more prone to criminality than anybody else, but their socio-economic condition was significant.

"Racism can play a role, as can living conditions and psychological problems arising from harassment and persecution," he told the Svenska Dagbladet newspaper.

At a recent, televised public meeting in Kimstad, a village of 2,000 in southeastern Sweden, one resident explained why he opposed plans to house 200 refugees there.

"The mild winters are probably caused by the dark-skinned immigrants who are used to a warmer climate," he said.

Residents of Kimstad distanced themselves from this remark, but newspapers and television gleefully seized on it.

The village is sharply divided over immigration, with many inhabitants saying the proposed refugee settlement would be too big to absorb. Racist slogans and signs demanding to "keep Sweden Swedish" have appeared on walls.

Swedish media have compared Kimstad to the small southern town of Sjöbo which voted in a local 1988 referendum against accepting any immigrants at all.

"Those who want to come here should have a house and job first," Kimstad resident Jan Talf was quoted by the daily Dagens Nyheter as saying.

"We Swedes are a laughing stock abroad. It's too easy to come here and live off welfare," he said.

An Iraqi man who beat his Swedish wife was imprisoned in February by an appeal court, which overruled an earlier more lenient judgement based on consideration for the defendant's cultural background.

In another case, women's groups criticised a male judge who warned Swedish girls to make allowances for immigrants' views on sex and marriage.



Guns 'n' Roses: Izzy, Duff, Rose, Axl, Slash and Steven

Guns 'n' Roses

On top – but for how long?

By Mohammed Elsheikh

SINCE late 1987, Guns 'n' Roses have been storming up both the US and the UK charts with singles like Sweet Child O'Mine, Welcome to the Jungle, Paradise City, Nightrain and Patience and they have also reached the top of the album charts with their two albums Appetite for Destruction and G'N'R Lies to become one of the world's number one rock bands. But just who are Guns 'n' Roses?

Guns 'n' Roses got together in 1985 in Los Angeles. They formed after leaving their former bands: L.A. Guns and Road Crew. Axl and Izzy were friends ever since they were in school as well as being members of the former, while Slash, Steve and Duff were members of Road Crew.

Their first live experience together was in 1985. The Hell Tour '85. While they were on their way to their first date in Seattle, their car broke down so they had to hitch-hike; it took two and a half days! "We were all standing at the side of the road dressed in our stage clothes," said Duff, "five guys in striped tight pants and boots out in the middle of Oregon. When we finally got there we were wasted. It was our first gig and we sucked real bad — it was hilarious..."

They finally got their first record deal with a top "hard rock" label Geffen Records in late 1986; they invented a rehearsal studio from a garage and suitably called it "The Hell House". It had no bathroom, shower or kitchen and they stole pieces of lumber from a nearby building site to make a loft that allowed three to sleep at a time. Izzy used to sleep in a tiny space between the couch and the wall and he would sometimes stay there for days.

In the summer of 1988 they played at The Donington Rock Festival where Axl greeted the crowd by saying "Have a good day and don't kill yourself."

Unfortunately, two members of the crowd were crushed to death whilst slam dancing during Guns 'n' Roses performance, and ever since, the annual festival has been cancelled.

So that is the story of Guns 'n' Roses but who are the members of this great rock group?

W. Axl Rose, singer, 26.

Born in Lafayette, Indiana, Axl's real name is Bill Bailey — Bailey being his stepfather's surname who was a bit of a no-gooder. His real father's name was Rose so he changed it to that at the age of 17. The name "Axl" comes from a group he was in. "W-

stands for William.

Axle suffers from a mental disorder called "manic-depressive schizophrenia", which means he is prone to "violent mood swings" and has to take a spook drug called Lithium frequently to keep him balanced.

He was an intelligent child at school who always got "A"s. He has been thrown in jail over twenty times but claims guilty only five times — of "public consumption". A psychiatrist who saw him when he was in jail once, for three months, said he has an "exceptionally high I.Q. and his behaviour is evident of psychosis."

Slash, lead guitarist, 23.

Slash, really named Saul Hudson, was born in Stoke-on-Trent. His father was an album sleeves designer and his mother a clothes designer. Sadly, his parents split up when he was very young, and as a result, he lived with his father in his grandparents' house, England until he was 11.

In 1976, they emigrated to southern California where he experienced a lot of bad times. "I had total freedom all the time. I used not to come home for weeks..."

When he was in high school, he made friends with Steve who encouraged him to buy his first guitar — a plain one with one string on it which he picked up in a garage sale. When asked why he chose to play the guitar and not bass, he said "I decided the guitar was more interesting because it had more strings on it."

Weird you may call him. Slash has three pet snakes: Pandora — an eight foot python, another python and a boa constrictor.

Steve Adler, drummer, 24.

Steve, who lives with his girlfriend Cheryl and his pup dog Benson, is often referred to as the boring one in Guns 'n' Roses. He was thrown out of eight different schools before high school because of "unruly behaviour". Steve began to bang on pots and pans before he took drumming seriously. Although he does not drive, he likes motorcycles, hockey, partying and rock 'n' roll!

Izzy Stradlin, Lead guitarist, 26.

Izzy, whose real name is Jeff Isabelle, was born in Indiana. His friendship with Axl goes way back when they were very young and remembers Axl as "a serious lunatic when I met him. He was just really bent on fighting and destroying things. Somebody's look at him wrong and and be d like just start a fight but then be could turn around and be the nicest."

Dismissal techniques

Never fire an employee on a Friday

LONDON. (UPI): "Never fire anyone on a Friday, and try not to be curt, obnoxious, hard-boiled or efficient or you could turn the 'unsuspecting corporate employee into a living corpse," a career expert says.

Derek Edwards, a career consultant who has helped relocate about 3,000 ousted executives, and who is the author of a study on Dismissal Techniques, said few managers have the skills required to break the bad news.

In an entirely fresh trial, Molineux hit back. Having ever sent the package to Comish-Furthmore, a witness came forward to testify that he and Molineux had been together at the time the prosecution alleged the package had been sent.

Fresh sets of handwriting experts were summoned. Their only point of agreement was to disagree. Molineux, after two years under threat of the gallows, was acquitted.

Unanswered questions have haunted students of crime ever since.

Was the guilty man really Cornish? Was it true, as it was rumoured, that he had developed a passion for his niece, Mrs Rogers, and was prepared to kill his aunt who stood in his way? Had he swallowed the poison deliberately as a blind? Has Molineux and Cornish arranged all the crime between them?

And was there any significance in the fact that Molineux had eventually married an old flame of Barnet's?

After his acquittal, Molineux basked for a while in notoriety. He wrote books and Broadway plays about his experiences. But the strain had proved too much and his nervous system cracked.

On November 2 1917, he died in the Kings Park State Hospital For The Insane, from "General Paralysis. Cerebral Type, due to syphilis infection and characterised by progressive deterioration, leading to complete dementia and terminating fatally," the hospital records said.

The real truth about the guilt or innocence of Roland Molineux died with him....

"The pain of rejection, anger, humiliation, bitterness and grief can engulf their termination interview and make it a disturbing, uncomfortable, even dangerous experience for all concerned," Edwards said.

He believes few managers strike the right balance between being compassionate and professional.

"The terminator should get down to business immediately, stating the purpose of the meeting and the reasons which led up to it, and it is important to explain without trying to justify and to make it clear that the decision is irrevocable," he said.

Interviews should take no longer than 15 minutes and be away from busy office areas.

"Be brief and allow time for the respondent while keeping con-

trol of the interview," said Edwards. "All of this does not imply being hardboiled, curt, insensitive, angry, or even obnoxiously efficient."

Edwards warned that failure to obey these guidelines can cause unnecessary trauma for the employee, and create a "ticking bomb" within the company if the managers delay in informing the person.

"This can turn the unsuspecting corporate employee into a living corpse, shunned by colleagues, and becoming more and more anxious," he said. "Procrastination is the thief of time, but also of the individual's self confidence and future job prospects."

And Edwards said employers should not feel remorseful about the experience, which he believes has a brighter side.

Radiation monitor

A lightweight, pocket-sized radiation monitor for detecting alpha, beta and gamma radiation is now being marketed for use in schools and is available from Harwell Laboratory, near Oxford. Seen in use left, Radcount is simple to operate, with an end-window probe. It was developed as part of a programme funded by the UK Department of Energy to promote a greater understanding of ionising radiation by young people. The Radcount package for schools includes the counter and probe, detailed instructions for users and teachers, and a handbook of graded experiments for pupils at various levels up to university entrance.



Trial: Under police escort, Molineux is led to New York's Central Criminal Court on the first day of his trial.



Happy days: Four years before his death, Molineux strolls in a New York street with his wife.

Unsolved mystery Most puzzling poisonous tale

By Carlton Steeart

IN turn-of-the-century New York it would have been hard to find an establishment more staid and respectable than the Knickerbocker Athletic Club, whose most distinguished star was the smiling, debonair Roland Burnham Molineux, committee member and reigning horizontal bar champion.

To many the personable Molineux was the perfect model of the ideal American hero. And that's what made it all the more shocking when, on November 14 1899, he stood in the dock of New York's Central Criminal Court, charged with murder by poisoning.

Had he deliberately administered cyanide to a Mrs Katherine J. Adams or had he really intended to stay her nephew Harry Cornish? Or both?

Cornish was none other than the Sports Director of the Knickerbocker. Furthermore, it was known that Molineux and Cornish did not get on.

The story constituted one of the most tantalisingly enigmatic homicides in American criminal history and was certainly one of the most puzzling poison cases ever.

At one point, Molineux was asked: "You claim to be entirely and absolutely innocent of any crime?"

The reply from the dock was jaunty. Molineux srawn to reason for fear. In a firm, clear voice he replied: "Entirely and absolutely innocent."

But Assistant District Attorney James W. Osborne intended to prove otherwise. And it was certainly a highly bizarre story he had for the jury.

Harry Cornish had been a very puzzled man the previous Christmas Eve. His mail, received at the Knickerbocker, had included a personally addressed cardboard box of the kind usually used by only the most exclusive jewellers.

Cornish had unwrapped the surrounding manila paper to reveal at one end a silver toothpick holder, and at the other, what appeared to be a small bottle of bromoseltzer, a mild form of medicine for headaches.

Who had sent so bizarre a present and, above all, why?

Impatiently, Cornish dismissed the riddle from his mind and prepared to throw away the manila wrapper.

But he kept it, thinking it might be useful to trace the person who had written his name and address on the wrapper.

Cornish endured the inevitable taunts from colleagues who said it was undoubtedly an anonymous gift from a girlfriend.

The same view was taken by Cornish's aunt, Mrs Adams, and her daughter, Mrs Rogers, with whom Cornish, a divorcee, lived on West 84th Street. Two days later, bored with the mystery, Cornish presented the bottle and toothpick holder to the aunt, shrugging: "You might well have them. They are no good to me."

Mrs Adams accepted graciously and, at the first sign of a headache, decided to take a dose of "My bromoseltzer". Her comment was: "My bromoseltzer. How bitter it is."

Cornish agreed and downed what remained in the glass. The sequel was horrifying.

Mrs Adams crumpled to the floor. A white face Cornish later testified: "She went down like six foot of chain."

A hastily summoned doctor found the woman ashened-face, her breathing heavy. Shortly afterwards she died — but not before the doctor had detected the distinctive odour of bitter almonds. An autopsy revealed death



Poison: Roland Molineux, who was charged with murder by poisoning.



Accused: The lace of debonair Molineux

from cyanide poisoning.

As for Cornish, he had been more fortunate. A violent bout of vomiting almost certainly saved his life.

Scarcely surprisingly, the bottle was found to contain a lethal amount of cyanide. More significantly, perhaps, the bottle was not of the conventional type used for bromoseltzer. A label had been removed from a genuine bottle and carefully pasted onto the vessel whose contents killed Mrs Adams.

The police turned their attention to the Knickerbocker Club and soon learnt that there had been a dispute between Cornish and Molineux over the running of the club.

But it seemed a trivial move for murder.

Then the police turned up a jewellery store in Newark, New Jersey, where an assistant had sold a bottle to a man seeking a container for bromoseltzer intended for a lady's dressing table. A clerk in a druggist also recalled selling a man two bottles of bromoseltzer. Both were the work of the same man.

The coroner ordered Molineux's arrest and he was at first charged with the murder of Mrs Adams and of Barnet but, after legal wrangling, he stood in the dock to answer the sole charge of killing Mrs Adams.

The purchaser was revealed as red-haired which caught the imagination, not just of the New York police, but of the press, who had taken up the chase.

A wigmaker near the druggist recalled selling a red wig to a man around December 21. Identification from the press photograph was emphatic — the purchaser was Molineux....

A \$5,000 reward was offered by the New York Journal for information leading to the arrest of the killer.

Two New Yorkers in the business of renting out private mail boxes for clients came forward. One of the client had given the name of H. Cornish, while the other claimed to be a man calling himself H.C. Barnet. Both the renters of mail boxes admitted under cross-examination that he had been paid \$500 by a newspaper in return for saying "Mr Barnet" was none other than Molineux.

And there was the death of the *Real H.C. Barnet*, the cause of which had not definitely been established because he had been suffering from the after-effects of diphtheria.

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Section heading

Van Rensburg struggles past Zivojinovic

ORLANDO, Fla., April 3. (Reuters): Third-seed Christo van Rensburg struggled with Slobodan Zivojinovic and two rain delays before winning his first-round match 7-6 (7-2) 3-6 6-3 yesterday at the \$225,000 Orlando Classic men's tennis tournament.

The 31st-ranked Van Rensburg was not in peak form. But the 27-year-old South African, who lives in the United States, was able to overcome the hard-

serving Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia.

"We both knew it was a big match," Van Rensburg said. "He's good enough to be seeded in the top four here, but he hasn't been playing well the last few months. A guy with his experience could've won the whole tournament."

After breaking even by taking the second set, the 109th-ranked Zivojinovic — who ranked as high as 19th in October 1987 — could not close out Van Rens-

burg.

The first rain delay was 15 minutes and came with Zivojinovic serving at 4-5, 40-15 in the first set. The second one hour and 40-minute delay came in the third set with Zivojinovic serving, 1-4, 15-all.

Fifth-seed Glenn Layendecker easily rolled over wildcard Jared Palmer 6-3, 6-1. The 52nd-ranked Layendecker played solid tennis, never letting the 261st-ranked Palmer, just coming back after knee

surgery in February, into the match.

"Today, he never got into it," Layendecker said. "I was able to capitalise early. He didn't look healthy."

Eighth-seed Ramesh Krishnan also advanced to the second round with a 6-7 (2-7) 6-2 7-5 over Derrick Rostagno.

The 74th-ranked Krishnan was down a match point in the ninth game of the third set before he rallied to take the match.

England to bar Johnson from meets

LONDON, April 3. (AP): Ben Johnson will be barred from Grand Prix and other invitational track meets in England once his two-year suspension for steroid use ends in September, officials said yesterday.

The Amateur Athletic Association, which governs the sport in England, said the ban would apply to any athlete found guilty of drug use by national or international federations.

"They could participate in England only if chosen for a national team in an event such as the Olympics or Commonwealth Games, or European or World Track Championships, the association said.

The statement reaffirmed a longstanding policy, the association said. It had no effect on meets in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland but Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, said the British Amateur Athletics Board was likely to follow the same policy.

Johnson tested positive for steroids at the 1988 Olympics and was stripped of the gold medal in the 100 metres.

He subsequently told a Canadian inquiry that he began using performance-enhancing drugs in 1981. That confessions led to his 9.83-second world record in the 100 in 1987 being erased by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

The IAAF suspended Johnson for two years in September 1988. He is back in training and scheduled to regain his international eligibility this fall.

Call Collect may not run in steeplechase

LONDON, April 3. (Reuters): Call Collect, one of the top fanciers for Saturday's Grand National Steeplechase horse race at Aintree, may not run.

A winner at the Cheltenham three-day festival meeting last month, Call Collect had been backed down to 8-1 in the 40-runner field but trainer John Parkes is praying for rain.

Doubts over Call Collect have led to more support for Brown Windsor, who is now 7-1 clear favourite.

The eight-year-old also won at Cheltenham last month and has never fallen in 11 outings over fences. The prevailing good ground should be in his favour.

Other leading fanciers on Saturday include top weighed The Thinker, who finished third to Little Polveir last year, andable companion Durham Edition, second in 1988 to Rhyme n' Reason.

Following an outcry last year when two horses had to be destroyed after falling at the infamous Becher's Brook, the obstacle has been modified.

Golden Bear on the prowl again

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 3. (Reuters): The world's top golfers gathered yesterday for the 1990 Masters championship aware that the "Golden Bear" was on the prowl again and hungry to feast on one more victory.

Jack Nicklaus, who has won a record six Masters titles, served up an impressive display of golf on Sunday in winning a senior title at his first attempt and immediately focused his attention on the Masters which begins on Thursday.

Nicklaus, who turned 50 in January, shot a four-under-par-68 to win the tradition tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona, by four strokes from his longtime rival, Gary Player of South Africa.

After his seemingly effortless victory, Nicklaus could hardly contain his eagerness to return to the Augusta National Golf Club, the permanent home of the Masters, where the picturesque course is eminently suited to his game.

"If I'm going to win on the regular Tour, the Masters will be the easiest to win," said Nicklaus, who collected his sixth Masters green jacket in 1986 with a spectacular final round of 65 to

Argentina stun W. Germany

Davis Cup holders toppled

Buenos Aires, April 3. (Reuters): Argentina's Alberto Mancini held his nerve after an overnight stoppage to beat Carsten Steeb and put holders West Germany out of the Davis Cup tennis competition yesterday.

Mancini's 7-6 3-6 4 victory in the deciding singles gave Argentina a 3-2 win over the West Germans in their world group quarterfinal.

Mancini, who was carried off the court by cheering fans after his win, needed only 24 minutes to finish off Steeb after play resumed yesterday and book his team a trip to Australia for the

semifinals in September.

The match had been suspended in fading light on Sunday evening, at a time previously agreed by both teams, with Argentina leading by two sets to love and the third set level at 3-3.

Steeb, who had beaten top Argentine Martin Jaite in his first singles rubber, was left ruing his words that West Germany, champions for the last two years, could win again even without US Open and Wimbledon champion Boris Becker.

Becker dropped out of the Davis Cup this year, saying he wanted to concentrate on trying

to take the world number one spot.

Steeb, ranked two places above Mancini in the world at 14, seemed yesterday to be in better shape than on Sunday, when he was cowed by the Argentine's powerful groundstrokes during the two hours they played.

But Mancini came back from 0-40 in the ninth game to go 5-4 ahead and blasted his way through the 10th game to dismiss the West German with a winning volley.

Argentina, who have only once reached the Cup final when they lost to the United States in

1981, had levelled the quarterfinal at 2-2 on Sunday when Jaite beat 62nd-ranked Michael Stieb 4-6 4-6 1-6 6-3 in a four-hour, see-saw match.

Mancini won Argentina's first point on Friday when he beat 83rd-ranked Jens Woehrmann 7-5 4-6 7-6 7-6 and West Germany won both their points on Saturday with Steeb defeating Jaite 6-3 6-7 6-4 6-3 and Eric Jelen and Stich overcoming Javier Frana and Gustavo Luza 6-2 7-6 6-2 in the doubles.

Besides missing Becker, the West Germans had to contend with injuries and ailments during their stay in Argentina.

Non-playing captain Nikki Pilic on Friday had to field Woehrmann, who had never played a Davis Cup match, after Stich suffered an upset stomach. On Saturday, Pilic switched the two again after a pulled leg muscle kept Woehrmann out of the reverse singles.

Pilic masked his disappointment at the loss and told reporters: "Even without Boris Becker we have a team with a lot of potential."

He said Steeb was unfortunate in having to play his first singles a day late, on Saturday, because of rain on Friday.

"Argentina's great advantage was that Mancini had a day's break between his singles while Steeb had to play on Saturday and for that reason he lacked sparkle," Pilic said.

Stich said his concentration had suffered after watching Stich lose so narrowly to Jaite in the first of the reverse singles.

Stich himself said: "If I bad gone 4-2 ahead against Martin Jaite in the fifth set, I would probably have won. But it was not to be. Next time I'll do better."

But West German Tennis Federation president said the team had nothing to be ashamed of.

"We can leave Buenos Aires with heads held high," he said.

Romanians still revere Comaneci

BUCHAREST, Romania, April 3. (AP): You can come back, Nadia. All is forgiven.

The people in your homeland understand why you left. They've heard the stories about your caravanning through America with a married man and wonder why you've snubbed Bela Karolyi, who made you a star before he, too, departed for the West.

But that's OK. To your compatriots, you -- Nadia Comaneci, gymnastics star of the 1976 Olympics and perhaps the most famous Romanian alive -- remain a beloved pixie whose life was ruined by the Ceausescu family.

"Maybe the person was not great as a human, but as a sports symbol she was really great," said Radu Gliga, a Bucharest engineer. "For sure they used her for political gain, but we didn't care about this. We loved her and she gave us so much happiness."

The people who used Comaneci were the family and followers of Nicolae Ceausescu, who ruled Romania as a personal fiefdom for more than 20 years until the revolution last December, just after Comaneci defected.

Comaneci reportedly had a long relationship with Nicu Ceausescu, the dictator's son, although its exact nature is unclear. Comaneci has denied having anything to do with Nicu Ceausescu, though her mother has said he tormented Comaneci physically and emotionally during a five-year

relationship.

Many Romanians believe there was some kind of long-term affair between the two.

"People always loved Nadia. She is a great kid that suffered because of the golden epoch, because she was a champion and beautiful," said Petru Ioan, a gymnastics coach who worked with Karolyi and knew Comaneci as a little girl in Oncesti in Eastern Romania.

"Someone should have fallen in love with her. The Little Prince (Nicolae Ceausescu) caused her all the problems," he said. "She was forced by him. I couldn't tell if she loved him or not."

Ioan's wife, Christina, also a gymnastics coach, said Niciu Ceausescu — known as a playboy — would not leave Comaneci alone.

"There was a time when she wanted to give up everything," Christina Ioan said. "She wished a family, she wanted to give up everything." Christina Ioan said. "She wished a family, she wanted to get married, but she was trapped by Nicu."

Comaneci soared into superstardom as a 14-year-old. When she became the first gymnast to score a perfect 10 at the Montreal Olympics, she won three gold medals, a silver and a bronze at those Games, part of a total of 10 gold medals she eventually won in Olympic and World Championship competition.

Cherkasov, Bruguera win

ESTORIL, Portugal, April 3. (AP): Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union upset seventh-seeded Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina yesterday to join Spain's Sergio Bruguera and Yugoslavia's Goran Prpic in the second round of the \$76,000 ATP men's Estoril Open.

But West German Tennis Federation president said the team had nothing to be ashamed of.

"We can leave Buenos Aires with heads held high," he said.

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Capriati outplayed Sloane

Capriati thrashes Sloane in opener

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C., April 3. (Reuters): American teenager Jennifer Capriati outplayed compatriot Susan Sloane 6-4 6-1 in the first round of the \$500,000 Women's Cup Tennis Championships yesterday, as rain delayed play throughout the afternoon.

Top-seeded Martina Navratilova of the United States, seeking her 150th career singles title, received a first-round bye in the 56-player tournament and will face American Halle Ciuffi, who beat Rosie Casals 6-3 6-4 in the first round, in the second round.

Betina Fulco of Argentina, seeded 14th, was forced to withdraw during her match with American Audra Keller when, trailing 6-1 4-0, she reached for a backhand and pulled a muscle in her back.

American Gretchen Magers, Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union and 12th-seeded Isabel Cueto of West Germany were all first-round winners in the clay court tournament.

Capriati, who reached the finals of her first professional tournament last month in Boca Raton, Fla., said she is happy to be playing in a normal setting after all the media and public attention she has received.

"It's nice to come out and play my matches without having all the guards walk me to the court. This is a lot more like I am used to tennis being, like it was in the juniors," Capriati said.

Capriati repeatedly outrallied the 34th-ranked Sloane from the baseline in the first set and coasted through the second set when Sloane forced her shots and began making unforced errors.

Capriati, who turned 14 on March 28, is playing in only her third professional tournament and will receive a world ranking after this week.

Keep politics out of Olympics, says Bush

ATLANTA, April 3. (Reuters): President George Bush, urging Olympics officials to pick Atlanta as the site of the 1996 Summer Games, declared yesterday that international politics must be kept out of the world's leading sports spectacle.

Bush, in Atlanta to address the National Association of Broadcasters, made the statement at the meeting with Olympics officials studying sites for the Games.

"We've got to keep politics out of the Olympics," Bush said after one of the officials mentioned "political trouble in the past."

"I feel very strongly about it," Bush said. "I'd like to keep politics out of the Olympic Games."

The United States boycotted the 1980 Summer Games in Moscow in protest against the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan.

In response, Moscow refused to allow its athletes to participate in the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Bush, who was shown a model of Atlanta's proposed facilities for the Games, told the Olympics representatives: "I don't want to put the hard sell on it, but I feel very strongly about it."

Prpic, meanwhile, won a battle of attrition against gritty Frenchman Jerome Potier as the skies cleared toward midday.

Prpic trounced his opponent 6-1 in the first set, only to suffer the same fate in the second, scrapping over the clay court and losing 6-1.

The Yugoslav ace captured the third set 7-6 with a 7-4 tie breaker with a punchy baseline rally and quick darts to the net.

"The first set was very important for me — I just had to win it," said Cherkasov, adding that his early break in the second set seemed to have upset the Argentinian at a decisive moment.

The tournament, worth \$32

Milan face Bayern, Marseille meet Benfica

Top European marksmen clash

LONDON, April 3. (Reuter): French sharp-shooter Jean-Pierre Papin aims to outgun Swedish ace Mats Magnusson when two of Europe's most prolific marksmen clash in a European Cup soccer semifinal showdown between Marseille and Benfica on Wednesday.

But while Papin duels with Magnusson in Marseille, Dutch star Marco van Basten can show he is still the classic striker in Europe when he leads the attack of Italian holders AC Milan in the other semifinal first leg against West German champions Bayern Munich.

Papin plundered his third hat-trick of the season last Saturday to hoist his tally of League goals to 27 as Marseille romped to a 4-1 win over Lille.

Magnusson was also firmly on target on Saturday, striking twice in the second half to give Benfica a 2-0 home win over Chaves in the Portuguese First Division and raise his personal account for the season to 28.

Van Basten has netted 19 times in the Italian First Division. The trio are top scorers in their respective Leagues.

Predatory Papin supplied the lion's share of the goals which earned Marseille the French League and Cup double last year and has scored on five of his six European outings this season.

He noticed his 100th goal for Marseille in the 3-1 quarterfinal second leg win over CFKA Sojia two weeks ago which took the club's ambitious millionaire



Van Basten: leads Milan attack

president Bernard Tapie a step closer to fulfilling his dream of bringing Europe's premiere club trophy to France for the first time.

England winger Chris Waddle is proving an ideal foil for Papin and scored himself against both CFKA and Lille.

Benfica were the semifinal opponents both Tapie and Waddle wanted.

Benfica, like Marseille, are second in their domestic League

but they have not been at their best and could be without influential Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern, who was out of action last weekend because of a leg injury.

Benfica have to look back a long way — to 1961 and 1962 — for their European Cup triumphs, though they reached the final in 1988 when they were defeated in a penalty shootout by PSV Eindhoven of the Netherlands.

High-flying PSV fell to Bayern in these semifinals and the West Germans, enjoying an unfamiliar underdog role, will hope to upset the odds when they take on AC Milan in the San Siro stadium.

AC Milan will be without gifted winger Roberto Donadoni, effectively barred from the rest of the competition when he was suspended for three matches by the European Football Union (UEFA) for violence in the quarterfinal second leg against Belgian's Mechelen.

Midfielder Carlo Ancelotti, who plays alongside Donadoni for Italy, was injured in the same match and will be another absentee from a side deprived by injury of the exceptional talents of Dutchman Ruud Gullit all season.

Gullit's compatriot Van Basten, European Footballer of the Year for the past two seasons, guided Milan into the semifinals by breaking the scoreless deadlock against Mechelen with an extra-time goal which led to a

hard-earned 2-0 win.

Van Basten and utility defender Frank Rijkaard, withheld by Milan from a Dutch international match last week, will play key roles for the title-holders who have lost their aura of invincibility in recent weeks.

Roland Graham and Roland Wohlfarth, scorers of the goals which gave Bayern an important first-leg edge over PSV in the quarterfinals, are suspended for the Milan clash after collecting one booking apiece too many.

But Bayern expect to include Scottish striker Alan McInally, who took a knock in last Saturday's 3-1 win over VFB Stuttgart which maintained the Munich club's three-point lead in the Bundesliga.

Two of the six semifinal first-leg ties in three European club competitions were kicking off this evening.

French representatives Monaco were entertaining Sampdoria of Italy, last year's beaten finalists, in the European Cup Winner's Cup and West Germans Werder Bremen, conquerors of holders Napoli in the third round, were at home to Italy's Fiorentina in the UEFA Cup.

Tomorrow, Belgium's Anderlecht, who ousted holders Barcelona from the Cup Winners' Cup, renew their ambitions at home to Dinamo Bucharest, while Juventus take on Cologne in another Italian-West German confrontation in the UEFA Cup.

— "The way we conceive of each part is the same," Boitano says. "So if I say, 'I really feel like I'm doing this,' she'll go, 'I feel the same way.' And when I look at her I can see that she feels the same way."

"In some ways, we are the same," Witt adds. "We always want to be good, to be perfect. We put a lot of heart into the skating."

Boitano, of the United States, and Witt, of East Germany, began two weeks of rehearsals here yesterday in preparation for the show in which the reigning Olympic gold medalists will skate together for the first time before a live audience.

The show, "Brian Boitano and Katarina Witt skating," opens in Portland on April 15 and will continue through June 12, ending in Philadelphia. A tour of Europe and Japan is scheduled for September and October.

Boitano said the show, which also features a dozen other Olympic and world champion skaters, has "A Street Look" and is a far cry from the glitz Las Vegas-style extravaganzas that many audiences have come to associate with the genre.

"It's new. It's a contemporary ice show. It's what's happening now," he said.

In their first rehearsal, Boitano, Witt and choreographers Sandra Bezic and Michael Siebert worked on "Isolation Hotel," a number in which the two skaters portray lovers who seek emotional therapy for their bumpy relationship.

Each is locked in a hotel room, unaware that the other is in the room next door. Skating to the haunting ballad, their movements reflect how their thoughts are focussed exclusively on each other.

"I think that's probably our favorite piece," Boitano said.

The skaters, who won gold medals in the 1988 Olympics in Calgary, say the challenge in performing at ice shows is different from that of international competition.

— "Results of the Hubara & Centre Bridge Club game played on Saturday:

N/S
1. Rima & Fouad Farab
2. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah
3. Dona Materny & Adel Bayouni
E/W
1. K.T. Simon S Salman Ali
2. J. Gajjar & Chandrashekhar
3. Nawa & Milban Asbkar

Results of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club game held last Wednesday morning:

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murtiwaite
2. Margaret Maynard & Jane Jackson
3. Nida Khalaf & Subbendan Oskay

Gulf sailors invited to Abu Dhabi

SAILORS from Kuwait have been sent invitations to take part in the Abu Dhabi sailing association's seventh annual international open sailing regatta, being held on May 3 and 4.

The event, which is supported by Dunhill, is expected to attract crews from around the region, including Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar as well as from the various clubs around the UAE.

The Abu Dhabi sailing association is made up of four clubs in the capital. The Abu Dhabi sailing club, whose origins go back over twenty years, supports fleets for kestrels the other for lasers. The adeats, actively promote catamaran sailing, whilst the boatwalkers compete regularly in windsurfing competitions around the emirates.

The fourth member is the Abu Dhabi cruiser association, which was originally formed in 1982. The Hilton sports and leisure centre, which will host the event, have been long time supporters of cruiser racing, and have sponsored a series of races during the summer for some years. During the recent Dunhill International cruise classic held over 178 nautical miles, around the southern Gulf, Abu Dhabi's Fran and Andy Leonard took third place in division 1 and third overall.

The regatta will follow a similar format to last year's event, with seven main categories of sailing events being held on the Thursday and Friday.



Witt: put a lot of heart into skating

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cup hell

Cairo, April 3. (UPI): Egyptian soccer manager Mahmoud El Gehairy says his World Cup final qualifying team is not going on a picnic in Italy but to "hell itself." "Fans think that we are going to Italy to crush other teams in the World Cup. This is totally wrong for a team not going there on a picnic but to face itself in a competition," El Gehairy said in an interview in yesterday's Al Ahram newspaper.

Cycling champion

PARIS, April 3. (UPI): World road race cycling champion Greg Lemond, who won his second Tour de France last year, has returned to the United States, where he plans to race in the Tour du Trump May 13.

Brazilian player

MILAN, Italy, April 3. (AP): Lazio of Rome, the first Italian major League club to open the transfer campaign for the next season, reportedly signed Brazilian midfielder Valdo following the acquisition of West German forward Karl Heinz Riedle from Werder Bremen.

English soccer

LONDON, April 3. (Reuter): Results of English League Fourth Division soccer matches played yesterday.

Cambridge 5 Scarborough 2
York 3 Exeter 0

Milan appeal

BERNE, April 3. (Reuter): European Cup holders AC Milan have appealed against a three-match ban on Roberto Donadoni which effectively rules the international winger out of the rest of their title defence.

Romanian manager
PISA, Italy, April 3. (AP): Romanian manager Mircea Lucescu has signed with Pisa and will direct the Italian club next season, club officials announced yesterday.

Woman jockey

LONDON, April 3. (Reuter): Woman jockey Gae Armytage will miss Saturday's Aintree Grand National after suffering a suspected broken leg. Armytage was to have partnered outsider Monanore, who finished third in the National in 1988.

Baur triumphs

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil 3. (AP): West German Patrick Baur upset eighth-seeded Horacio de La Pena of Argentina in opening day play yesterday at the \$250,000 Banesta Open tennis tournament.

Ferry waits

ROME, April 3. (AP): Danny Ferry said yesterday he's waiting until the end of the Italian regular season before making up his mind on whether to return to the United States to play for the Cleveland Cavaliers in the NBA next season.

Padres sold

SAN DIEGO, April 3. (AP): An investment group headed by Hollywood producer Tom Werner signed a letter of intent yesterday to purchase the San Diego Padres baseball team, club owner Joan Kroc said. Terms of the transaction were not released, but the club's price tag was reported to be \$75 million.

Fiji squad

SYDNEY, Australia, April 3. (AP): Former Australian national rugby union coach Alan Jones is coaching the Fiji national team on a temporary basis and may take the job permanently.

Brazil players receive ultimatum

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 3. (Reuter): The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) has warned players selected for the World Cup they must be present on April 23 when training begins or risk missing the competition.

The ultimatum was made even though many of Brazil's foreign-based players have club commitments after the deadline.

Jorge Salgado, a CBF director, told Reuters yesterday he was confident all 22 players selected by coach Sebastiao Lazaroni would meet the demand.

"We are working with the hypothesis that all the players will be present on the 23rd," he said.

"If any player is not present the committee will meet and decide what to do. If he has a good justification for his absence, he will be maintained in the squad. If not, he will be dropped."

Salgado said all the players

were warned before last Wednesday's 1-0 defeat by England. "Some said they would have a certain amount of difficulty but at the end it was almost certain that we would have them all," he said.

The foreign based players likely to be selected are Jorginho (Bayer Leverkusen), Mozer (Marseille), Romario (PSV Eindhoven), Valdo, Ricardo, Aldair (all Benfica), Bruno (FC Porto), Careca, Alemao (both Napoli), Julio Cesar (Montpellier) and Dunga (Fiorentina).

Leverkusen are second in the West German League and have six games after April 23. Napoli are second in the Italian League, which also finishes after the deadline, while Benfica could be involved in the final of the European Cup.

"If they are present on the 23rd, Lazaroni will then decide on the official deadline, and begin training camp on April 23 at the mountain resort of Teresopolis, 90 kilometres from Rio, to give him full six weeks with his squad.

● Lazaroni said yesterday he was in contact with Fiorentina, but denied making a deal to take charge of the Italian first Division side next season.

"There are only contacts with Fiorentina, there is nothing firm," Lazaroni said in this central Italian city where Brazil will stay from May 20-29 during their build-up to the World Cup finals.

"I'm Brazil's coach up to the World Cup, then we'll see. I like Italy and its football," added Lazaroni, whose is touring Italy to finalise their World Cup arrangements.

Brazil face Scotland, Sweden and Costa Rica in Turin in Group C of the World Cup finals starting on June 8.

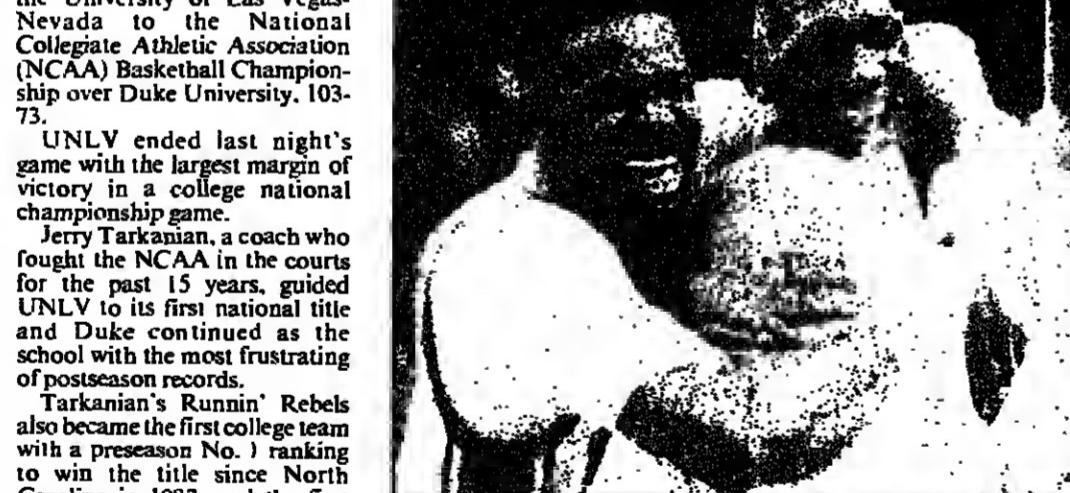
Fiorentina sacked coach Bruno Giorgi last week, replacing him with 1982 World Cup player Francesco Graziani.

— "Results of the Hubara & Centre Bridge Club game played on Saturday:

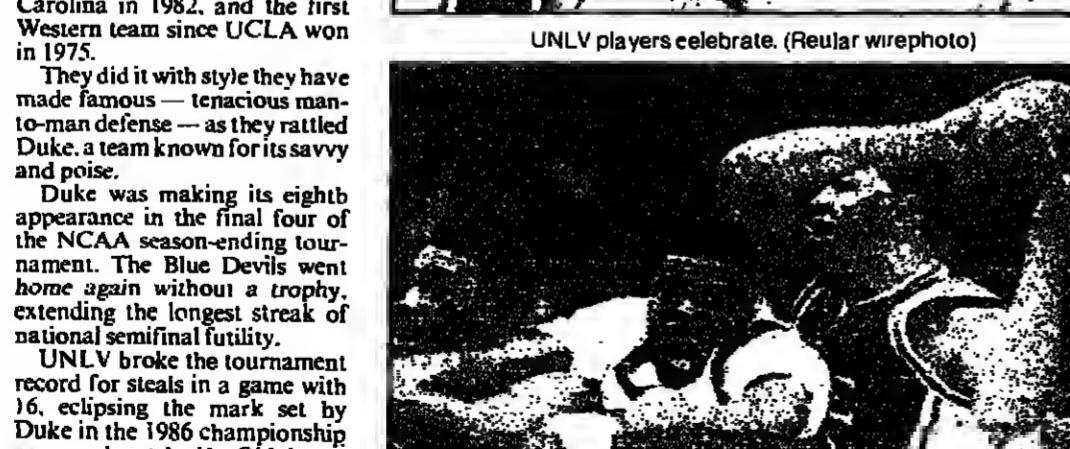
N/S
1. Rima & Fouad Farab
2. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah
3. Dona Materny & Adel Bayouni
E/W
1. Mohammed Merchant & Carsten Buus
2. Beatrice Pereira & Ahurey D'Souza
3. John Burke & Fazal Hussain

Results of the Messilah Ladies Bridge Club game played on Monday:

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murtiwaite
2. Margaret Maynard & Jane Jackson
3. Nida Khalaf & Subbendan Oskay



UNLV players celebrate. (Reuter wirephoto)



They did it with style they have made famous — tenacious man-to-man defense — as they rattled Duke, a team known for its savvy and poise.

Duke was making its eighth appearance in the final four of the NCAA season-ending tournament. The Blue Devils went home again without a trophy, extending the longest streak of national semifinal futility.

UNLV broke the tournament record for steals in a game with 16, eclipsing the mark set by Duke in the 1986 championship game and matched by Oklahoma in the 1988 title game.

Until last night, the largest margin of victory in a college national championship game was 23 points, when UCLA beat North Carolina 78-55 in 1968.

For Tarkianian, the man who sits on the bench looking as though it pains him to watch his team win, getting the trophy capped a long battle with the NCAA.

UNLV managed a 10-point

lead just 7:26 into the game as the Rebels forced Duke into turnover after turnover, mostly by stealing the ball.

They scored the first points of the game, and never trailed.

Duke, which averaged 17.2 turnovers per game this season, had 14 at halftime and 10 of those were on steals by the Rebels.

The first 10-point lead came on a sequence of four UNLV steals

in four consecutive possessions — the last was by Stacey Augmon, who took the ball from Phil Henderson near midcourt and sailed in for a dunk. That made it 21-11.



Las Vegas' Moses scurry lets out a scream after dunking the ball. (Reuter wirephoto)

Levi's logo

Witt and Boitano prepare for tour

PORTRLAND, Maine, April 3. (AP): Figure skaters Katarina Witt and Brian Boitano, rehearsing for their upcoming 34-city international tour, say there's a special chemistry in the case with which they perform together on the ice.

Boitano said they anticipate each other's movements and share similar feelings about how the partner's role fits in with his or her own.

"The way we conceive of each part is the same," Boitano says. "So if I say, 'I really feel like I'm doing this,' she'll go, 'I feel the same way.' And when I look at her I can see that she feels the same way."

"In some ways, we are the same," Witt adds. "We always want to be good, to be perfect. We put a lot of heart into the skating."

Boitano, of the United States, and Witt, of East Germany, began two weeks of rehearsals here yesterday in preparation for the show in which the reigning Olympic gold medalists will skate together for the first time before a live audience.